

JPRS 74222

20 September 1979

Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2021



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		1. REPORT NO. JPRS 74222	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No.
4. Title and Subtitle NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT, No. 2021			5. Report Date 20 September 1979	
7. Author(s)			8. Performing Organization Rept. No.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Joint Publications Research Service 1000 North Glebe Road Arlington, Virginia 22201			10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.	
			11. Contract(C) or Grant(G) No. (C) (G)	
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address As above			13. Type of Report & Period Covered	
			14.	
15. Supplementary Notes				
16. Abstract (Limit 200 words) This serial report contains information on socioeconomic, government, political, and technical developments in the countries of the Near East and North Africa.				
17. Document Analysis a. Descriptors				
Political Science	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-Arab Affairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libya	<input type="checkbox"/> Sultanate of Oman	
Sociology	<input type="checkbox"/> North African Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Mauritania	<input type="checkbox"/> Syria	
Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> Afghanistan	<input type="checkbox"/> Morocco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tunisia	
Culture (Social Sciences)	<input type="checkbox"/> Algeria	<input type="checkbox"/> People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	<input type="checkbox"/> United Arab Emirates	
Ethnology	<input type="checkbox"/> Bahrain	<input type="checkbox"/> Persian Gulf Area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Sahara	
Geography	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Egypt	<input type="checkbox"/> Qatar	<input type="checkbox"/> Yemen Arab Republic	
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Military Sciences	<input type="checkbox"/> Iraq	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish North Africa		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Israel	<input type="checkbox"/> Sudan		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jordan			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kuwait			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lebanon			
b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms				
c. COSATI Field/Group 5D, 5C, 5K, 15				
18. Availability Statement Unlimited Availability Sold by NTIS Springfield, Virginia 22161		19. Security Class (This Report) UNCLASSIFIED		21. No. of Pages 96
		20. Security Class (This Page) UNCLASSIFIED		22. Price

20 September 1979

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2021

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PLO REPRESENTATIVE TO UN INTERVIEWED

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 27 Aug - 2 Sep 79 pp 38-41

[Interview with Zehdi Terzi, PLO representative to United Nations, by Lydia Georgi, on 25 August from New York City]

[Text]

Zehdi Terzi, the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative at the United Nations, says he intends to invite former U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young to visit PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and other Palestinian leaders.

"I'll make it clear when I meet him next," Terzi told Monday Morning, "that he would be welcome to visit with us any time he wants... I don't think he would oppose the idea."

Terzi was talking to this magazine from New York in the pre-dawn hours of Saturday, August 25, a few minutes after the Security Council session on the "Palestinian rights" resolution ended with an agreement to postpone the controversial vote with a view to averting an American veto.

It was Young's "unauthorized" meeting with Terzi last month that led to his resignation last week, after the storm of objections whipped up by Israel and its supporters in Washington.

Terzi said the episode had served the Palestinian cause well: it had turned the American spotlight on it as it had never been turned before, and it had gained it the support of many Americans, especially among the black constituency.

The PLO representative, confirming that Arafat had agreed to the postponement of the vote on the "Palestinian rights" resolution in deference to Andrew Young, said the delay would give the PLO more opportunities to use the channels opened to it by the controversy to reach more American organizations and build up more support for the Palestinian cause.

Noting that "organization-to-organization" meetings had already started between the U.S. black community and the PLO, he said he would work toward the consolidation of this new relationship, and "perhaps we can start some solidarity action."

Terzi said the PLO would try to convene the Security Council and seek a decision on the "Palestinian rights"

resolution sometime in September, after the Havana summit of non-aligned countries.

"We hope in the meantime," he said, "that the United States, as a result of some efforts, will review its position. We hope so, but we're not counting on it."

He added that, judging by "the general atmosphere" and the statements made at the Security Council by European Economic Community states like Britain and France, "I think the United States has started to feel that they cannot achieve anything without involving the Palestinian people and... without the collaboration of the Palestine Liberation Organization."

The PLO does not intend to amend the "Palestinian rights" resolution to make it more acceptable to the Americans, he said, adding, "If the Americans want an amendment, they should introduce it themselves."

Terzi said Washington "will eventually have to accept the fact that a new resolution has to be passed which underlines and reaffirms the rights of the Palestinian people and the role of the PLO."

To what extent do you consider the postponement of the vote on the Palestinian rights resolution favorable to the Palestinians?

I would say that the importance of what has happened at the United Nations over the past two weeks lies in the debate, which has taken such dimensions.

For the first time, there has been a major Security Council debate on the issue of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people – not on the situation in the Middle East, say, or on any specific Israeli violation of human rights. The issue was specifically this: what decision should the Security Council take on a recommendation proposed by the Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and endorsed by the General Assembly so that the Palestinian people can exercise its right in its own country,

Palestine? The recommendation called for the return of the Palestinians to their homes and for the exercise of their right to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty in Palestine.

The committee had a program worked out, and a decision was supposed to be taken on this issue by the Council.

It was a big debate. It took on enormous dimensions. For the first time, everyone was involved – and all because of the action of the United States government against its representative, Andrew Young, simply because he got in touch with the Palestine Liberation Organization – and did so, I would say, in the line of duty.

This issue aroused the conscience of the American people, and they wanted to know what it was all about, what was

going on, why their government had taken such a position against its own representative.

The debate, thanks to the action of the United States — whether it was taken willingly or unwillingly, wittingly or unwittingly — opened a new channel for the Palestinian people and their cause to reach the American people, especially the very sizable American black constituency.

We think that by keeping the debate alive and in motion at the Security Council, by not pushing for a definite decision on the issue, we can still benefit by approaching more and more American organizations which were previously not concerned but now show great concern in the Palestinian cause, the Palestinian struggle, the Palestinian question.

Do you have any idea when the debate on this resolution will be resumed?

We shall consider resuming the debate when we return from the summit of non-aligned countries. Since the draft resolution is already on record, we can convene the Council for a vote on it at any time we choose.

Has an understanding been reached with the United States not to veto the resolution when the Council takes it up again?

No such understanding has been reached, no.

What efforts will you be exerting in the meantime?

We hope in the meantime that the United States, as a result of some efforts, will review its position. We hope so, but we're not counting on it.

Do you agree with Kuwaiti Ambassador Abdallah Bishara that the postponement of the vote was in deference to Ambassador Young?

Yes, to the greatest extent. This was actually the desire that Chairman Arafat expressed to us. We conveyed it to Ambassador Bishara and he, in turn, conveyed it to Ambassador Young.

So the PLO played a role in seeking this postponement?

In the final analysis, after we agreed that the vote should be postponed, it was left to us to tell the non-aligned and socialist members of the Council of Chairman Arafat's desire to have the vote postponed in deference to Ambassador Young and his action.

Do you think the U.S. is tending toward the view that the Camp David framework is no longer valid? Do you think it will favor a new resolution on Palestinian rights in due time?

They do not admit it, but judging by the general atmosphere and also by the statements made by some Western European countries... The British made a statement this evening to the effect that Resolution 242 is not adequate, that the rights of the Palestinian people should be taken into consideration, and that there was no hope for peace unless and until the Palestinians get their legitimate rights. Judging by this, I think the United States has started to feel that they cannot achieve anything without involving the Palestinian people and — now they're getting more specific — without the collaboration of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Did they say this?

No, they didn't. But you asked me whether I thought they felt this way. I think they do. And when Ambassador Young made his personal farewell statement to the Council, he repeated the word "ridiculous" several times in his references to the United States' refusal to deal with the PLO.

Do you think this attitude will lead the U.S. to favor a new resolution?

I think they will eventually have to accept the fact that a new resolution has to be passed which underlines and reaffirms the rights of the Palestinian people and the role of the PLO.

When do you expect this to happen?
God knows.

Do you think Andrew Young can help you more when he is no longer president of the Security Council?

Well, Andrew Young is no longer the representative of the United States. He has said goodbye to everybody as president of the Security Council because another American might fill that seat. But Andy Young said he hoped he would be of more use and serve better purposes when he was no longer a representative, and that he thought he could do so. I think he will play a role in the community. He has a very big constituency now, because all the black Americans are rallying around him. He has proved to be their symbol, and he's getting much more support, even from those who had no rapport with him in the past.

If he proves to have learned a little more about our cause, I'm sure he could play a role in the future.

Have you dropped your intention to call for an extraordinary session of the General Assembly?

No, no, no. The emergency session remains as a second move. The Security Council will eventually have to decide

what to do with this draft resolution. Should it fail to play its role and assume its responsibilities, or should it be prevented from doing so, then we would have to call for an emergency session of the General Assembly. We will have to start preparing for that as of now.

Do you expect the EEC states, especially Britain and France, to influence the U.S. position on the resolution in the coming months?

I don't know to what extent they can influence it. But in their statements, the European countries made it clear that without the participation of the Palestinians, Camp David cannot succeed, and I think the United States will have to take this into consideration.

When the Council convenes again, will you present the same draft resolution, or...

No, we don't present it; it has already been introduced in the Council.

You cannot amend it?

If anyone wants to do so, he would have to propose amendments. But the draft has already been introduced.

Will you try to introduce an amended text which may be more acceptable to the Americans?

Well, I don't know. If the Americans want an amendment, they should introduce it themselves.

If the resolution has not been voted on by October, will you take the matter up at the ordinary session of the General Assembly?

Well, the matter is already an item on the agenda of the ordinary session.

When do you expect the Security Council to reconvene and take a position?

We hope we will be able to have it take a final position during September.

Do you anticipate a visit by Chairman Arafat to the United Nations, on his way to Havana?

No, no. There is no such thing.

But wouldn't such a visit help promote the passage of the resolution next time?

I don't think it would have any effect, because, with all due respect to everybody, it is the policy of the United States that counts there. I mean, we have the number of votes we need to get the resolution through, but the United States would use its veto. We don't anticipate that Chairman Arafat will visit the United States, no.

Will the PLO be seeking an anti-American resolution in Havana?

I don't know. I haven't gone to Havana yet, and I haven't received my instructions. You'd better ask them in Beirut.

I meant a resolution against American policy.

I don't know, but I think it would be only natural for us to oppose, and perhaps even condemn, the policy of the United States. We have to condemn the United States, because they're supporting Israel, financing Israel, arming Israel, so that Israel can drop the bombs on Lebanon.

The other issue is that American policy is based on the Camp David approach - a policy which is completely anti-Palestinian and against Palestinian rights. We will take that issue up at Havana as well.

What's your reaction to the Harris poll that indicated that 37 percent of the Americans thought Young was right to meet with you?

Where these polls are concerned, it all depends on where they are conducted - in what region. I mean, had this poll been conducted in Harlem, for example, the figure would have been 95 percent, maybe. These polls do not really represent a full range of the population here. But I'm glad to hear that this percentage at least think he was right.

Do you feel the American people in general approve of the meeting?

Well, from the response I'm getting, I think there's something like 70 percent approval.

What are the chances of Young meeting with you and other PLO leaders in the foreseeable future?

Well, from now on, Young is Mr. Young and not Ambassador Young. The chances are very high that we will meet as friends now.

What about other PLO leaders?

I would be happy if he, as a citizen of the United States, agrees to meet with the PLO's leaders. And if I could arrange a visit for him, that would be excellent.

A visit where?

A visit... a visit to my leaders.

Where? In Beirut?

Well, anywhere.

Are you planning to arrange such a visit?

No, I'm not, but I say I would be very happy to, and I don't think he would oppose the idea. It all depends on what political career he intends to pursue.

Maybe he will not do it during the election campaign, because I think he is committed to the campaign in favor of Carter, and he may not think such a visit proper when he's campaigning for Carter. But he would be welcome. I think I'll make it clear to him when I meet him next, as "Mr. Young," that he would be welcome to visit with us any time he wants.

Would you think of inviting him to visit Chairman Arafat, for instance?

Yes, yes, sure.

To what extent do you think the black American community can influence U.S. policy?

To quite a tangible extent, I would say, because they have already started communicating with us formally, organization to organization, and this is scaring our enemies. The Jewish community here is getting nervous about the meetings between us and the black community, and they are saying this on TV.

What do you intend to do to develop these relations?

I will just respond positively and try to promote, strengthen and consolidate the relationship. In this way, perhaps we can start some solidarity action.

Has the Young controversy helped create a pro-Palestinian lobby in the United States?

I don't know about a "lobby," but it has awakened the conscience of the people and it is really helping us a great deal.

Is it a political victory, in a way?

Well, I would say, as far as we're concerned... I think it is a political victory, yes.

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

IMPLICATIONS OF IRAQI PLOT RESULTS DISCUSSED

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 10 Aug 79 p 1

[Article: "The Malignant Third Party Behind the Conspirators in Iraq"]

[Text] Baghdad made the "conspiracy" public, but confined the consequences to the individuals who had engaged in it, made the charges against them, tried them and imposed the penalty dictated by law. Although there was an official indication that a quarter outside Iraq had had a hand in the conspiracy, the new regime had kept quiet, and has launched no media or political attacks against any quarter.

In other words, the new regime in Iraq just liquidated the conspiracy and its instruments, leaving the door open for the quarter thought to have been responsible for the elements who undertook that "naive conspiracy."

This means first of all that Baghdad has left a good opportunity for anyone wishing to offer good offices. Secondly, it means that the new regime in Iraq has discovered (as Nasser discovered earlier) that Arab-Arab wars, whatever the slogans, objectives and instruments, are slow suicide for all the parties involved.

Thirdly, it means that Baghdad is saving itself for a great Pan-Arab role that goes beyond Arab disputes even if they reached the point of conspiracy, although we think it unlikely that there was an Arab quarter involved and we fear that that conspiring gang was the leading edge of plans of greater dimensions than it confessed to, and with the covert goal of fabricating the accusation of causing trouble between twin brothers, Baghdad and Damascus.

That Pan-Arab role which Baghdad has committed itself to is to defy plans to impose an Israeli peace throughout the length and breadth of the Arab area. Such a mission can be accomplished only with the solidarity of the broad Arab front, from the oil countries to Syria and from Jordan to Algeria.

It is true that the climate in both Baghdad and Damascus is filled with bitterness over the painful event that surprised both sides. This is a further cause for surprise, as one would suppose that both capitals would be conscious of a malignant third party that hatched this vile intrigue.

However, it is also true that time and good offices may repair the breach in trust in the face of the fateful challenges the Arabs all face from the aggression of Israel and the tricks of America.

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LEBANESE FOREIGN MINISTER SEEKS ARAB CONFERENCE

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 27 Aug - 2 Sep 79 pp 18-23

[Interview with Fu'ad Butros, Lebanon's Foreign Minister, by Mona es-Said, date and place not given]

[Text]

"I hope, I demand, I insist that the United States exert increasing pressure (on Israel), because it appears that the pressure that has been used so far is not enough at all," Foreign Minister Fuad Butros told *Monday Morning* in a private interview last week.

He added: "I consider the United States somewhat derelict as far as the exercise of its influence on Israel regarding South Lebanon is concerned."

The foreign minister made the statement a few hours before a sharp escalation in the Israeli bombardment of South Lebanon prompted the Lebanese authorities to demand an urgent meeting of the Security Council, seeking sanctions against the Jewish state.

Answering a question about a recent exchange of letters between President Elias Sarkis and U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Butros said that although there were "some encouraging aspects" to Carter's message, the message contained "nothing that could be called a guarantee; nothing decisive about the questions posed and the pending problems."

Minister Butros also confirmed that the letters President Sarkis had written to the Arab heads of state — expected to be delivered by MPs Rene Moawwad and Zaki Mazboudi early this week — include a request for an Arab summit conference on the South Lebanese issue.

He said that although he did not know whether the summit would be held, the letters would at least prompt the Arab leaders to adopt a position on the issues raised, and "this in itself will be useful, even if the conference is not held."

He added: "But I sincerely and earnestly hope that the conference will be held, because it is fully justified, indeed dictated, by the current circumstances."

The object of the summit, he said, would be to promote "a unified Arab strategy which would relieve Lebanon of part of its burden. Because regardless of the circumstances, it is unacceptable for Lebanon to bear the full military and human burden of the Palestinian cause and the Middle East crisis — alone, to the exclusion of all other Arab countries."

The foreign minister, who is also deputy premier and the only member of the first government of Premier Selim Hoss to be appointed to the second Hoss government, also made the following points:

- If the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) pulls out of the South because of the sharp deterioration of the situation there, that would constitute "a very grave development indeed. It would, in my opinion, destroy the United Nations and the Security Council, posing a future threat to peace in any part of the world. It would paralyze the United Nations and totally eliminate its ability to play any role, once and for all."

In view of the serious consequences of such a move, "I believe the world community cannot possibly allow itself to be defeated in the South."

- Washington's reaction to the meeting which the U.S. ambassador to the U.N., Andrew Young, held with Palestine Liberation Organization observer Zehdi Terzi "is not totally free of flippancy. I find it difficult to imagine that a great power like the United States is unable to understand that some of the positions adopted by Ambassador Young are a service to international peace, to the solution of complicated problems, and to the interests of the United States itself."

- Although "some hold the view that President Sarkis should go to the United Nations immediately" and put the Lebanese problem to the General Assembly, and although the view has its justification, the President has no intention of doing so at the present time, and he has his reasons.

- Differences of view between Lebanon and Syria on the deployment of the Lebanese Army are not likely to disturb Lebanese-Syrian relations, which "are based on tradition and brotherhood." The issue probably involves no more than "an exchange of views on the ideal plan to deal with the current situation in Lebanon."

We have heard a great deal about a Lebanese diplomatic offensive on the Arab and international levels: The President's letters to Arab heads of state, Premier Hoss' planned trips to Damascus and Havana, and your approaching visit to the U.N. What are the objectives of these multiple initiatives, and do you think you can achieve them?

In view of the delicate circumstances in which Lebanon finds itself and the difficult stage through which the region is passing, it is essential to exert all possible efforts, first to clarify the situation and second to surmount the difficulties, or at least some of them. That is the objective of Lebanese diplomacy and the Lebanese government at this stage.

The diplomatic initiative, or what has been called a diplomatic initiative, is nothing new, since Lebanese diplomacy has been in a state of constant motion, especially over the past two years, because of the circumstances.

The letters of His Excellency the President were dictated by circumstances of which you are well aware, relating mainly to the situation in South Lebanon and the tragic consequences of the Israeli attacks on that area: the dispersion of the Lebanese and the human and material losses they are incurring. The letters are necessary, first to clarify matters and then to ask the Arab heads of state, in the light of their responsibilities, to take steps to formulate a unified strategy which would relieve Lebanon of part of its burden. Because regardless of the circumstances, it is unacceptable for Lebanon to bear the full military and human burden of the Palestinian cause and the Middle East crisis — alone, to the exclusion of all other Arab countries. This is beyond Lebanon's means. It is impossible. Neither Lebanon nor any single Arab country can alone bear such a burden.

As for the prime minister's visit to Havana to represent His Excellency the President at the non-aligned nations' summit conference (in September), it is dictated by Lebanon's membership in the non-aligned movement, by the need to establish Lebanese presence, and by the opportunity this conference gives Lebanon to take certain positions on certain issues. The visit will also facilitate contacts with certain Arab and other heads of state, to pave the way for an understanding or for future meetings.

Finally, my visit to the United Nations at the head of the Lebanese delegation is necessary, especially since I was unable to attend the General Assembly last year, for well-known reasons. It is necessary for Lebanon to be there, to make itself heard and to announce certain positions which concern it and the world community. During this meeting, I will also have the opportunity to contact a number of foreign ministers, especially the foreign ministers of the Security Council's member states and of the states which are contributing troops to the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon.

I hope this activity will produce some results. I know that neither this nor any other initiative can solve all of Lebanon's problems, as with a magic wand, but it will doubtless contribute to their solution, solving some of them and facilitating the solution of others.

At any rate, one must try.

It has been reported that President Sarkis, in his letters to the Arab leaders, requests a summit conference to coordinate policy on South Lebanon. Do you expect such a conference to be held? If so, when, and do you think it can produce the desired results?

My answer to your first question partially answers your second. President Sarkis is asking for an Arab summit conference because he considers such a conference necessary to deal with the

matters at hand. I can say no more about the letters' contents, because it would be improper to reveal them before they have been delivered.

As for the reaction of the Arab heads of state to these letters, I can't tell you anything about them. One thing is certain, however: the letters will naturally prompt each recipient to adopt a position on the subjects posed and to express this position in his response. This in itself will be useful, even if the conference is not held — keeping in mind that I sincerely and earnestly hope that the conference will be held, because it is fully justified, indeed dictated, by the current circumstances.

Ambassador Tueni has said that he has recommended that the President go to the General Assembly and lay Lebanon's cards on the table. Is there any chance that the President will do this?

I know that some hold the view that the President should go to the United Nations immediately, and that view has some justification. But President Sarkis deals with problems from his own position, which gives him a wider view of the situation than any other official has.

President Sarkis, I believe, will not go to the General Assembly to present anything to do with Lebanon at the present time. Obviously, he has his reasons for taking this decision. But this does not mean that circumstances will not oblige him some day to go to the General Assembly or any other international body to raise certain subjects, when he finds that this is necessary and can be useful.

President Carter's response to President Sarkis' message has been described as

"positive." In what way was it positive? Did President Carter go beyond the usual assurances of American support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon? Did he promise more pressure on Israel?

"Positive" is an extremely elastic term, and its meaning is relative. What is positive in one person's view may be less positive in another's, and may be regarded as negative by some.

Such letters rarely go beyond the limits of classic exchanges of messages between Presidents. They usually include no final commitments on anything specific. We should keep that in mind when we consider such matters.

President Carter's message had some encouraging aspects, but nothing that could be called a guarantee; nothing decisive about the questions posed and the pending problems.

But the important thing was to draw the U.S. President's attention to certain matters which Lebanese diplomacy is constantly underscoring and following up, in the hope that this might be beneficial.

There was nothing in the letter to indicate that the United States might be willing to exert more pressure on Israel?

More pressure or less pressure, strong pressure or feeble pressure — these too are relative. We have no instruments with which to measure the extent or

dimensions of the diplomatic pressure that one country may bring to bear on another. It's a matter of bilateral relations, of the circumstances in which the pressure is exerted, of the possibility of increasing or decreasing that pressure, according to the given conditions.

I hope, I demand, I insist that the United States continue to exert pressure, and to exert increasing pressure, because it appears that the pressure that has been used so far is not enough at all.

There have also been reports about an impending visit by President Sarkis to Washington. Is there any truth to them?

To my knowledge, the President has planned no visits to Washington at this time.

U.S. Ambassador Dean has predicted peace in Lebanon within three months, and a formal question has been addressed to you on this subject by Deputy Albert Mukheiber. Do you think the American assurance is "just talk," as Mr. Pierre Gemayel has said, or are there any indications that the situation may indeed improve by the end of this year?

I don't know if Ambassador Dean actually made the statement that has been attributed to him. I personally doubt that he said anything of the sort.

At any rate, the situation in Lebanon has not been moving from bad to worse; there are some signs of improvement, albeit slow.

It is my view, however, that no one can with any accuracy predict what may happen — unless we're talking about speculation and educated guesses, in which case the doors of speculation are

wide open on this subject, as on others.

Ambassador Tuani has said that both Lebanon's enemies and its friends have an interest in keeping Lebanon unstable "to fight each other and other parties" through it. Do you agree? Do you think this applies to the Arab states? To the United States?

I have on more than one occasion stated that the war in Lebanon is in some of its aspects linked with the Middle East crisis; that in other aspects, it is linked with the differences between the super powers in their rivalry for influence and domination in this region; and that in other aspects still, it is linked with inter-Arab differences, which, for many reasons that we need not go into now, are being played out in Lebanon.

With these considerations in mind, it can be said that more than one party benefits from keeping Lebanon a scene of violence, war and estrangement. It would serve no interest to go into this subject in any more detail, but I can say that the Arab-Israeli conflict is without doubt playing a role on the Lebanese stage, that Arab disputes are likewise playing a role, and that more than one country believes its interests are being served by the fire that is consuming Lebanon.

I do not wish to accuse any specific party, but I do believe that the actions that are being taken against Lebanon, particularly its South, are playing a

prominent role in Lebanon's problems — although I concede that other factors are also playing a role.

In a recent statement on the violence in South Lebanon, Prime Minister Selim Hoss attacked the United States for not applying pressure on Israel to stop its bombardment of the South. He compared this American inaction with the action Washington took against Ambassador Andrew Young for meeting with the PLO's Zehdi Terzi. Do you share Premier Hoss' feelings on this subject?

As I told you in answer to a previous question, the United States must exert more pressure on Israel, because the pressure it has exerted to date has produced no results. That statement indicates that I consider the United States somewhat derelict as far as the exercise of its influence on Israel regarding Lebanon and South Lebanon is concerned.

As for the attitude that the United States took toward Ambassador Young and his meeting with the PLO representative, I find that it is not totally free of flippancy. I find it difficult to imagine how a great power like the United States is unable to understand that some of the positions adopted by Ambassador Young are a service to international peace, to the solution of complicated problems, and to the interests of the United States itself.

Do you think there is any danger of UNIFIL pulling out of the South if the situation deteriorates further, and do you agree with those who are saying that such a move would spark a regional war?

I refuse to accept the idea that the United Nations can be defeated in South Lebanon. That would be a very grave development indeed. It would, in my opinion, destroy the United Nations and the Security Council, posing a future

threat to peace in any part of the world. It would paralyze the United Nations and totally eliminate its ability to play any role, once and for all.

The enormity of the consequences of such a move — the withdrawal of the international peace-keeping forces — is such that I believe the world community cannot possibly allow itself to be defeated in the South, to withdraw its forces from the South.

Even if the situation deteriorates sharply?

The United Nations must prevent a deterioration. It must take the necessary measures to keep its armies in the South. That, in all candor, is my opinion.

What will Mr. Ivor Richard's mission be in South Lebanon? And what do you think his chances of success will be?

I'd rather not anticipate matters. I'd prefer to wait for Mr. Richard to arrive and to acquaint myself with the mission with which he has been entrusted before I answer this question.

General Erskine has said that the South Lebanese problem cannot be solved if the Lebanese problem as a whole is not solved. Do you agree? And do you think "the Lebanese problem as a whole" can be solved before the Middle East crisis is settled?

What General Erskine says is true, and the reverse of what he says may also be true. Because the problem is a very complex one and can be viewed from more than one angle — although I concede that the solution of the Lebanese problem would facilitate the solution of the South Lebanese problem.

As for whether the solution of the Lebanese problem is possible in the absence of a Middle Eastern settlement, my answer is this: The settlement of the Middle East crisis would contribute a great deal toward a solution of the Lebanese problem. But I absolutely reject the idea of keeping the Lebanese problem pending, of doing nothing to try to solve

it, on the grounds that it is linked with the Middle Eastern crisis. If we adopt such a position, we will be destroying our country, dashing the hopes of our people and the hopes of the coming generations.

How do you evaluate Lebanon's current relations with Syria? Is there any truth to the reports of strained relations between the two countries because of the Army deployment plan in downtown Beirut?

Lebanese-Syrian relations go back a long way and are based on tradition and brotherhood. I do not for one minute imagine that an argument involving the deployment of the Army or any such side issue can disturb those relations.

I am not personally informed about what you may call differences of view on the question of Army deployment but it is my opinion that all that is involved is an exchange of views on the ideal plan to deal with the current situation in Lebanon.

Do you still refuse to be optimistic or pessimistic about the future of Lebanon, as you have often told reporters?

The question is based on a false assumption. Like any other man who keeps track of developments and cares for his country, I go through periods in which optimism is dominant and periods in which pessimism is dominant. I hope that the stage that we are approaching is a stage of optimism.

AMIN SPEECH TO STUDENTS GOING TO USSR

Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 21, 22 Aug 79 LD

[Highlights of speech by Afghan Prime Minister Hafizollah Amin to students going to study in the USSR; date and place of speech not specified--read by announcer]

[21 Aug 79]

[Excerpts] You are honored that you are going to a country which throughout the years was a close brother country of Afghanistan. You are going to a country than which Afghanistan did not have a more unselfish friend, and there are not two countries having similar relations. You go to a country which has preserved its 62 years of friendship and brotherhood with the people of Afghanistan. You go to the country which officially recognized the independence of Afghanistan for the first time in the world and extended its official recognition for the first time to the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution.

You go as the ambassadors of the youth of Afghanistan to the country of Soviets, the cradle of the revolutionist workers' regime, which has embarked on the construction of a classless society. You reflect the society and youth of Afghanistan. You convey the love and patriotism of the youth of Afghanistan to the youth of the Soviet Union and the youth of other countries who have the honor of receiving higher education in the Soviet Union. [sentence indistinct]

You represent the Afghani Revolution. You will introduce the Afghani Revolution to everyone coming into contact with you. You will demonstrate the truth of the objectives of the revolution. You will exemplify the firmness and consolidation of the regime. You will show how promptly the gains of the revolution are resolved in Afghanistan. [passage indistinct]

You will see in practice that the country you go to is the (?emblem) at the core of the workers' revolution and movement all over the world. You will see practice of that which has given birth to your revolution,

your people and your toilers. You will see that this is not the first time that our brother country of the Soviet Union defends Afghanistan. You will soon see in practice that the people of the Soviet Union have always had interest in the people of Afghanistan and have always supported Afghanistan since the war of independence of our country and have always extended wide assistance to Afghanistan and that the corrupt regimes of the past did not utilize them adequately. Today our [words indistinct] that whatever assistance is needed for the construction of our country and defense of our revolution is made available to us by our friendly and brotherly country of the Soviet Union. [sentence indistinct]

You go to the country which is the hero of peace scholars of the world, the banner holder of world peace. You are to represent [word indistinct] our country, your people's desire for peace and the peaceful policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. You will demonstrate in practice that the Afghans now have great and keen interest in the fate of the world and of the region and are poised to defeat the warmongering conspiracy of imperialism.

While in the Soviet Union you will see in practice friendship and brotherhood with the Soviet Union, the identity of the aspirations of the people of Afghanistan with those of the Soviet Union, the warmth felt by the people of Afghanistan towards the assistances extended to Afghanistan by the Soviet Union. You will come into contact with the youth of the world. You will maintain close ties of friendship with a great number of youth all over the world. You will reflect the energy of the Afghan youth. You will respect the greatness, sincerity and high human aspirations of the Afghan youth. You will demonstrate your honesty and allegiance to the aspirations of the toiling peoples, to all the world youth and the Soviet Union, through them the [word indistinct] efforts of their peoples.

The Soviet Union, the center of revolution and the cradle of the proletarian revolution, the youth of the world [words indistinct] and the friends of the [word indistinct] revolution of the world [word indistinct] will embrace you. You will also represent the warm feelings of the youth of Afghanistan and the (?warm) and revolutionary sentiments of all of us. You will represent the red blood of the martyrs of the revolution to all the revolutionary youth, (?ranging) from (?students) of Vietnam, Laos, to Ethiopia and Angola. You go to the country where more than 100 nationalities are living together brotherly and equally. You will see how nationalism has been uprooted.

[22 Aug 79]

[Excerpt] You are going to a country which has given to the world an example of brotherhood. You are going to a country from where the internationalism of proletariat takes its [word indistinct] and has lighted the path of all the toiler of the world. You also should inform them of the emulation of nationalism in Afghanistan and tell them

that in Afghanistan all the nationalities have begun a new life on equal and brotherly footing. You should inform them of the revolutionary spirit prevailing and that all the toilers of brother nationalities in Afghanistan are defending the revolution hand in hand. We are fighting against the enemies of our country and we are ready for all kinds of sacrifices.

You justifiably represent to the youth of Ethiopia, Angola and Palestine, (?this) revolutionary role of the sons of our soil for defending the gains of the revolution. You show them that the Savr Revolution has really realized these desires and has translated them into action for which our brothers are still laying their lives (?in the) fight against imperialism.

Upon your return to your country after being well versed in the scientific construction of a society devoid of exploitation of man by man you will see that the optimum conditions will be available in Afghanistan for laying the foundations of a society devoid of exploitation of man by man and you will have a prideful part in it. You should remember that Afghanistan and Soviet Union are two brotherly, friendly and independent countries. Both of them have historical honors of the party and defence of freedom. Both of these countries feel proud of their country and independence. Each of them respects the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of each other. In the preservation of these historical prides these two working class countries are living like brothers together and are waging a common war for the downfall of imperialism and for the prosperity of their countries. You should be busy studying in the land of the Soviets in a brotherly atmosphere. You should maintain your warm patriotism and feelings of independence and remain busy in that country for learning sciences. You should make your utmost to learn as much as you can so that you are well prepared for the flourishing of your country.

You should endeavour to pick up knowledge to flourish [as heard] your country. Your enemies have taken refuge in the arms of imperialism. They try to ruin your country. You learn for the prosperity of your country while they are for the destruction of your country. They take instruction how to topple the Khalqi order. You learn how to consolidate your regime. They have taken refuge to imperialism so that to fight for reinstalling the exploitative order in Afghanistan, as wanted by imperialism. [sentence as heard] They disrupt our country, kill our brothers and sisters and innocent children. It is up to you youth to prepare yourself against the enemies of mankind, civilization, construction and prospering of the country [words indistinct] and development of your country. You should prepare yourself for the defence of the honor of your land and service to the toiling people so that you carry out this great duty in the best possible way. I should congratulate you for this.

You observe that your enemies vomit all kinds of lies against you. They also hatch plots. I am pretty sure that you patriotic youth will not be influenced by the hollow lies of the enemies of your country and not have (if they realized), just as the brother toilers in Pakistan and Iran defend responsibly your revolution and its gains with a spirit of internationalism. They also expect [of] you a similar attitude. You too have responsibilities towards your toiling Iranian and Pakistani toilers. You have a responsibility for rendering maximum success to your revolution and also towards its consolidation and construction of your country. The speedy development of revolutionary Afghanistan will bring closer the toilers of Iran and Pakistan and very soon their hope of revolutionary victory will be realized. Today we will not commit the treason of exporting revolution. We have never thought of exporting revolution to our neighboring countries. However, we believe that the revolutionary waves recognize no border or hurdle. The revolutionary waves carry the warm revolutionary sentiments of one brother to another no matter in what part of the world he lives. In Pakistan and Iran or in any part of the world with whatever magnitude you hit imperialism the freedom of your toiling brothers in Iran and Pakistan will be neared to the same proportion. When you give blows to reaction you are in fact crushing the enemies of your toiling brothers. Your brothers will achieve revolution without any obstacles. You can be successful in this mission when you return successfully from the land of Soviets.

You should hear and not believe the lies of your enemies, for enemies will be disgraced themselves. Remain content that all the workers of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the employees of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Embassy in Soviet Union are at your service and will give a full report of your life there. They will report on your progress. I hope all these reports and information will add to our honors and we hope not to hear anything offending. Whatever desires, opinions or recommendations you might be having which is in our means tell us like a brother or like a sister. It will never delay in fulfilling your patriotic desires. We will always be in your service as brothers and you should always develop and evolve yourself as honorable sons of our country so that you return with high personalities.

CSD: 4920

KABUL RADIO FURTHER REPORTS AMIN SPEECH TO BANK EMPLOYEES

Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 17 Aug 79 LD

[Highlights of speech by Prime Minister Hafizollah Amin to an audience from the Bank of the People in the Public Health Ministry; date not specified]

[Text] Now we bring you the main part of the highlights of the address given by Lomei Wazir [Prime Minister] Hafizollah Amin to an audience from the Bank of the People in the Public Health Ministry recently: [read by announcer]

As much as our country becomes rich, the incomes of the workers, peasants and other toilers increases in the same proportion. The increase in aggressions of imperialism, (?left) extremists and reactionaries of Pakistan and Iran continue against our revolution, Khalqi order and our country and the parasites of our country have taken refuge with the enemies of our people. They bomb our streets and damage our buildings, transport and communication means. They kill our innocent children and martyr our women and elderlies. In spite of all this, our workers, since the advent of the transitional period from feudalism to a society void of exploitation of man by man have benefited to a considerable extent. [Word indistinct] (?working hours) and benefits of work have been brought to be (?painstaking civil servants) [words indistinct] they enjoy the benefits of insurance, they form their unions [words indistinct] and the past has been wiped out. They are provided with housing facilities [words indistinct].

The rights of men and women have been brought (?at par). [Words indistinct] and for every individual who has the power to work, the possibility of employment is being provided. The peasants [words indistinct]. They have become the owners of land and house. They establish [word indistinct] and cooperatives and fully realize the advantages of Khalqi revolution. Similarly, all our toilers will (?see across) to the future, [passage indistinct].

The victory of the Great Saur Revolution and the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the beginning of the transitional period from feudalism to a society void of exploitation of man by man in our dear country is the annihilation of economic relations that [words indistinct] or rather the type of exploitation and economic influence of imperialism. With the acceptance of this principle, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan not only encourages the national capitalists to launch economic initiatives against feudalism and imperialism but it sincerely supports them and leaves no stone unturned in providing its powerful assistance in the revolutionary framework and it remains sincere to all its patriotic allies.

By no means it allows the capitalist form of development in the country and in order to reach its final goal, that is a society void of exploitation of man by man, which is the first stage for reaching a society void of classes and by following the principles of the working class (?stage), it adopts a path of noncapitalist [word indistinct]. In Afghanistan the people's banks render their [word indistinct] in line with the policy of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan so that the material and cultural needs of the people can be fulfilled through growing and improving [word indistinct]. They always take into consideration the needs of the toilers and the urban and rural areas. They cooperate in the national exchange of products in cities and villages and in accordance with our social targets so that according to the leader of the workers of the world, exchange can be made between the large socialist industrial output and agricultural products constituting the essence of the foundation of economic socialism.

The heavy duties of you patriots rest on the facts about the role of banks in the transitional stage of our society from feudalism to a society void of exploitation of man by man which has started since the victory of the Great Saur Revolution, and the consolidation of the workers in the democratic front of Afghanistan is forging ahead in accordance with the instructions of the great leader of the people. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan confidently declares that in Afghanistan the general rules of banking are observed. The (?security) of people's accounts is insured with the banks and the state guarantees security of all assets, current GVA accounts, savings accounts and security accounts.

Confidentiality of people's banking accounts is guaranteed and no person and no authority can seek information about people's [word indistinct] except by [words indistinct] the consent of court. There is freedom of transaction, and owners of accounts can draw from their accounts any amount at any time they want. These rules of the banks are to be observed and assurance is given of their application to all the clients of the people's bank.

My dear compatriots, this is the nature of the revolution and Khalqi regime and the state of revolution which your society is carrying out. With the passage of this transitional state, you will cast away feudalistic (?notions) with all their remains and reach the era of a society where the exploitation of man by man is [word indistinct] and forges ahead toward a classless society. This has made the enemies of the toilers worried. With the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution all the [word indistinct] exploiters and [word indistinct] sirdars wanted the nation to be (?upset) [word indistinct] because it was such a revolution which had no precedent as far as (?Afghans) were concerned. It was staged in a society where the oppressive exploiters who were connected with imperialism (?held) the country backward and the victory and the continuation of the workers' revolution [word indistinct]. But when our enemies realized that with the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution such a situation prevailed in the country under the leadership of the heroic figure of the country and the great leader of the people of Afghanistan in which transition from feudalism to a society void of the exploitation of man by man started and the country began to forge ahead along with the [words indistinct] exemplified by you employees of the banks of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. They started not only to hatch conspiracy against us but to interfere in the internal affairs of our country (?in practice) and to encroach upon the honor of our country.

They want to create [words indistinct] provided for the return of the regime of oppressors and sirdars, the servants of imperialism. Our [word indistinct] transition stage is passing rapidly. Our toiling people press through the darkness of the error of feudalism and forge ahead towards a (?bright) society void of the exploitation of man by man. A society where the [word indistinct] product will belong to the toilers. The enemy [word indistinct] and tries to create obstacles against the [words indistinct] of the people and the Khalqi revolution and fire on the (?caravan) of revolution, but our toilers proceed ahead toward (?realizing) of the great society void of the exploitation of man by man [words indistinct].

Today, the main question is the defense of the country of the toilers against the oppressive sirdars and [word indistinct] connected with imperialism and the aggression of Pakistanis and Iranians, the servants of the exploiters, and the continuation of the transition from the remains of feudalism towards a classless society. You compatriots can add to the honor of the country with your honorable participation and performance of your banking duties. (?This is) the highest confidence in your readiness for defending the honor of your country, as our toiling people are forging ahead with pride towards their classless future. They are warmly welcomed by their Pakhtun and Baluchi brothers and all the toilers of the region and the world. This is the pride of all our brothers living between the Amu and Aba Sin rivers in the Great Sawr Revolution and the example of our proletarian internationalism and

creation of unity and (?buoyancy) [word indistinct] brotherhood and equality among all the nationalities of their ancestral land, Afghanistan and the full support and backing of our toiling people in Sind and Punjab and the full solidarity of toiling Iranians with the toiling Afghans.

The discharge of the duties of you compatriots with all spirit of patriotism contributes to the spread of the work of the Great Sawr Revolution because you are in the service of all toilers with a high revolutionary spirit and without any national fanaticism and [word indistinct] prejudice or local discrimination. You respect the aspirations of the high Khalqi order for every one of the toilers of the country, region and the world at large which is warmly felt in the hearts of every toiling Iranian and Pakistani. You compatriots, now that your [passage indistinct] the role of you compatriots in the struggle is effective and of considerable importance. We (?would like) to enjoy the (?large assistances) of our international brothers and friends [words indistinct] cooperation with our Soviet brethren in Afghanistan is in conformity with the principles of proletarian internationalism and warm brotherhood and equality. We have the honor that our (?sincere) and goodneighborly relations with the Soviet Union have provided such fruit which is the best example for our friends and a source of fury and sorrow to our enemies. After the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution when our dear country Afghanistan (?went along) with the countries of proletarian assistance, a lot of aids of the brother socialist countries were made available to us. We have also enjoyed the warm feelings of friendship of the vast country of India expressing well the friendly, close ties between the peoples of Afghanistan and India and the interest both sides are taking in extending this friendship profoundly in practice. Other friendly countries in the world have also favorable feelings toward us. They are taking part in the projects of our 5-year plan. We profoundly (?believe) to expand our friendship with the peoples all over the world. This plan can be achieved well in an atmosphere of peace. That is why we are the staunch defenders of peace in the region and the world. We have great interest in enlarging detente. We warmly welcomed the signing of SALT II and deem it the victory of peace and diplomacy over the war-seeking policy. Our desire for peace has kept us strongly interested in the nonaligned movement in which we are taking active and positive part. Our beloved and great leader of the people of Afghanistan is also going to take part personally in the heads of state summit of the nonaligned countries in Havana, and with the atmosphere of peace in the region and the world we can use the aid of the peaceful countries and the financial resources of our country in the Khalqi construction of our society. The part which you compatriots, the employees of banking institutions, play will always be outstanding. We are sure that our desires and long-cherished revolutionary aspirations of the workers party and Khalqi state will be reflected through you compatriots.

'KABUL TIMES' ON PAKISTANI, IRANIAN ACTS OF INFILTRATION

Kabul KABUL TIMES in English 6 Aug 79 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Pak, Iran Intruders Wiped Out"]

[Text] The treacherous infiltration of a number of Pakistani and Iranian and their attack, with the help of some of their treacherous agents, have once again revealed that these traitors are not stopping their plots and provocations against our Khalqi order. The more we are talking of peace, peaceful coexistence and good neighbourly relations the less the reactionary circles of Pakistan and reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran pay attention to these necessary phenomena.

This shows their stubbornness toward the world issues. It shows that they are so malicious that they even pay no attention to the needs and cause of humanity, though they claim humanism.

However, it is obvious that their carelessness about these issues does not emanate from their pride, but it is emanating from their utmost fear and from their desperate efforts to foil our lofty revolution.

Because they see that our revolution is developing so fast that it has nearly reached the doors of these enemies of mankind, and it is true.

Our great leader Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the PDPA CC [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee] and president of the RC [Revolutionary Council] and our First Minister Hafizollah Amin, have repeatedly said that we do not intend to export our revolution and we have never done so. But the lofty rays of this revolution, as an example of the revolutions of the world today, are spreading fast over a vast spectrum, and, naturally, this is not our fault that the light of the Great Saur Revolution is spreading throughout the world.

Despite this the treacherous reactionary circles and fanaticism of the region try to attribute this to us. They are so foolish that they even could not figure out that no one can stop it in the course of history.
[sentence as published]

They are so crazy and simple-minded that they can not figure out the progressive wants and rightful desires of the general populace vis-a-vis their cruel and fraudulent actions.

No matter what treacherous acts they may resort to, the course of history, the wants of the people and the new ideas will find their ways at any circumstances.

As our first minister said in answer to a question of a foreign journalist recently, our Khalqi regime is in full control of the situation throughout the DRA. The only thing that disturbs our peace is the treacherous encroachments and intrigues of the enemies of the people of the DRA.

We would like to proclaim to the world, especially to the progressive and peace-loving peoples of the world, that we are making headway toward development and peace. We are taking progressive steps towards our cause and the people are happily enjoying the gains of their lofty revolution. In effect the main objectives of these steps are prosperity and wellbeing of the masses of our society who have been kept backward, destitute and poor due to the collusions of the imperialistic circles and their lackeys--Nader-Daud family. But the fraudulent acts of the enemies create trouble against us.

Now our progressive Khalqi order is seriously determined to develop the standard of life of the people of this country. Our Khalqi regime is sincerely determined to deliver completely our oppressed people from tyranny and exploitation and furnish them with a blossoming life.

The people of this country on the basis of the lofty desires of their Khalqi order are determined to wipe out whatever treacherous elements rise up against their wants and progresses. We have done away with attacks, aggressions and all kinds of encroachments made by the treacherous infiltrators of the reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran and through reactionary circles of Pakistan so far. We have wiped out the enemies of our people in the previous minor incidents in Kabul and some other provinces of the country. We are certain that all treacherous acts as such would be foiled by our people, our heroic armed forces and security forces within a short period of time. Thus there would remain only a black face to our enemies and they will gain nothing but disgrace and eternal curse of all peace-loving humanity.

CSO: 4920

'KABUL TIMES' CHIDES WESTERN, BEIJING MEDIA CONCERN OVER ISLAM

Kabul KABUL TIMES in English 7 Aug 79 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Propagandistic Media Beat Cold Iron"]

[Text] It is strange that the Beijing Radio, BBC, the voices of America and Germany are now weeping for the danger facing Islam, as they say, in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA].

We would like to ask these "broadcasting companies" if it is of their business to be concerned with our religion and even our affairs. We never poked our nose, like they do, about what is going on in the religious affairs of the places where these broadcasting companies are operating. Thus we never give any right to others to talk either about our religion or other affairs of us.

The status of religion is clear enough in our country. Our Khalqi regime treats religion in the best manner it can. The people themselves are utmostly observing their religious duties and nobody would have the right to tell them not do this or that. Instead, all facilities, whatsoever, is prepared for them. Only in view of Haj this year, our Khalqi government has decided to furnish ground for twice the number of persons of the previous years. All in all, there are all kinds of care and respect for the religious affairs in the DRA and no room is left for the strangers to care about our religion.

They would better take care of their own religion and cultural affairs. They do such dirty acts that religion and humanity are ashamed of. They have all kinds of discrimination towards various nationalities, blacks, and white, etc. They are committing all sorts of immoral acts which neither Islam nor other religions will accept them.

Right now the children, women, old men and many valorous Palestinian Moslems are wandering around out of their own homeland, as a result of colonialistic and imperialistic tyranny and cruelty.

The treacherous Israelis, with the support of the imperialists, have expelled the Palestinians from their own land. They were not satisfied with their ousting but proceeded to commit all kinds of crimes to these poor people. Everybody confirms that this situation is the malicious product of the British colonialism, but despite this the BBC is weeping for Islam.

Those who are beating their chests as if they are supporting Islam, have robbed the natural resources of the Islamic world, they have plundered the historical remains and the past prides of the Islamic world. They have created all kinds of discord among the different nationalities of Islam and even within a nation. They have created various touchy issues such as language, faith, region and even clan and tribes to exploit them in their own interest. They have colonised and exploited the lands and people of the Islamic world in the worst manner.

Despite all the aforementioned hostilities and fraudulent acts they are still beating their chests for Islam and weeping as if Islam is in danger in Afghanistan. It is ridiculous indeed.

Those who did not do any good to Islam and now shout their sympathy should be ashamed of their hypocrisy.

It is interesting that now instead of the so-called Ayatollahs, the treacherous Ikhwanis, their masters are beating their chests and crying for religion and Islam. In effect these fanatics and the Moslem looking Farangis have been replaced by the BBC and other propagandistic media.

This shows that the fanatic leaders of Iran and the reactionary circles of Pakistan due to their green attitude and groundless logic lost the ground in this regard.

Thus we are happy now that we are facing the most powerful broadcasting companies of the world, but we would like to warn these propagandists that their propagandas will have no room in our country and our people will not be deceived any more. Our people have totally realised the lofty aims of their Khalqi order which is serving the cause of the people and forging ahead towards the prosperity of this country. Thus all these propagandas are nonsense and serve no purpose.

CSO: 4920

BASIC DIRECTIVES OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR 1979-1983

Kabul KABUL TIMES in English 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 Aug 79 BK

[9 Aug 79 pp 2, 3]

[Text] Following is the basic directives of the five-year economic and social development plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan during the years 1358-1362 [1979-1983].

Prior to the victory of the glorious Saur Revolution the economic situation in Afghanistan was very bad and miserable.

The economic disorder, the anti-national and anti-democratic policies of the monarchical regime and its special stand to defend the continuation of the old and rotten feudalistic relations, exploitation of the toilers, disorder in financial situation, drawing of undesirable foreign loans and finally corruption in the administrative machinery of the government were the factors which caused the growth of the country's economy to slow down and the inflationary trends to get intensified.

In the years prior to the Great Saur Revolution in spite of the relative rates of growth in the national economy of the country the standard of living of the people was falling down.

No harmony was witnessed in the rate of economic growth. During those years the level of the real income of the people was declining to the extent that it was not sufficient to even meet the primary needs of the people.

The Daud regime instead of seeking secured domestic and foreign sources to help implement the development programmes, totally ignored the national interest and moved against the interest of the nation. He used to accept the aids and assistances which in appearance seemed desirable but in reality had colonialistic nature and were in fact a major factor for economic dependency of Afghanistan.

The wrong economic policies which were drawn up in the light of exploitative advices caused the volume of production and the output of the major

economic fields to come down and get imbalanced. We can cite as an example the trivial role of industries in gross national products and national income of the country.

The anti-national economic policies caused the production of machinery, chemical industries and melting of metals, in the industrial sector, to be either invisible or grow at a very slow rate.

The economy of the country was held backward due to the one-sided economic growth under the circumstances which preserved the rotten and old feudalistic relations and domination of capitalistic production relations.

Owing to the low rate of the annual national income and per capita income, Afghanistan was among the poorest countries of the world.

It takes our toiling people and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the revolutionary state long years to be able to wipe out the heavy legacy of the rotten feudalistic regime through creative and heroic work and to lead the country towards rapid economic and social development.

The basic results of the tasks fulfilled for the economic and cultural development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan during 1357 or the first year of the victory of the Great Saur Revolution are as follows:

The whole procedure in agricultural field was positively changed and the financial position was strengthened and foreign economic relations were expanded and in this period agreements were concluded with the foreign friendly countries and international organisations providing for technical and economic aids, based on mutual interests in a bid to boost up the level of national products.

During 1357 [1978] vast efforts were made to do away with the legacies of the past corrupt regime.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan changed production relations in agriculture and successfully continued the democratic land reforms and continually carried on the campaigns against usury with the objective to deliver the peasants from every kind of exploitation and class oppression.

The rate of gross agricultural products during the year 1357 [1978] went up six percent. One-third of the total irrigated land was brought under cultivation of improved wheat and sugar beet. Some 27 percent of irrigated land was cultivated cotton. During the same year 109,000 tons of chemical fertilizers were delivered and ground was prepared for use of cal [as published] fertilizer in 16 percent of irrigated land. Tractors were used in almost 2.5 percent of the total area under cultivation. Approximately 50 percent of cattle enjoyed veterinary services through aids provided by friendly countries.

After the glorious Great Savr Revolution the revolutionary state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has taken effective measures to expedite industrial project-making in gas industry, chemical industry, light industries and food industry, and to improve technical conditions in coal mines and cement factories.

A number of agreements were signed with the friendly countries and international organisations for the purpose of construction of large and new institutions in oil industry, metal melting industry, coal mines, food, light industry and construction material industry.

As far as economic feasibility is concerned effective measures have been taken with regard to the material resources of raw materials and energy, greater use of the productive capacities, and enlargement and efficiency of the industrial organisations.

In 1357 the total volume of gross products in industrial sector increased by 4 percent and in the state enterprises and mixed sectors by six percent.

Consequently, the relative share of the state and mix sectors in the whole industrial products reached 36 percent.

In the field of power energy a considerable growth was achieved. During the year 1357 the production of power energy counted for 870,000,000 k.w.h. More than fifty percent of the electric power produced was used by industrial consumers.

The magnitude of the activity of transportation of goods especially land transportation was expanded during 1357 and the relative share of transportation increased by 7.5 percent in the country.

Transportation of passengers via air and land has also been expanded and in 1357 more than 800 modern city buses went into operation in the Kabul city for the convenience of the public. The first line of trolley buses has been extended eight kilometres and has been used by trolley buses.

In 1357 the magnitude of the communication activity rose up by 12 percent and around 720 kilometre channels went into operation.

Likewise the first television station started broadcasting TV programmes in the Kabul city.

The domestic resources and foreign aids of the development state budget in the power energy industry, irrigation and other social service projects were not utilized fully as predicted.

During 1357 fruitful activity was carried out by the revolutionary and Khalqi state in the field of education, campaign against illiteracy expanded further and according to the primary reports reached around

700,000 persons were enrolled in the literacy courses. During this period the school enrollment of 7-year-old children went up by 41 percent. In this year the number of graduates of high schools reached 15,000.

School construction was boosted up and during 1357 around 500 new schools were put up.

After the victory of the Great Saur Revolution collective voluntary work started in construction and mobilization of schools.

In 1357 new teaching rules were drafted for the new type of schools and new teaching curricula were worked out and textbooks were printed for the first graders in their own mother tongues. Likewise, further measures were taken for the training of the school teachers. The number of students of vocational and high technical schools increased by 2.2 to 2.3 percent in 1357 compared with the preceding year 1356.

[11 Aug 79 p 2]

[Text] After the Great Saur Revolution the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan took steps towards the extension and expansion of cultural networks and centers including libraries, cinemas, museums and publication of greater number of newspapers, periodicals and magazines and broadcast of better radio and TV programmes.

At the end of 1357 [1978] the number of libraries in the country reached 291 and the number of museums increased by 7. The radio broadcast went up to 18 hours in 24 hours and the TV broadcast reached 2.5 hours in 24 hours.

During this period the total number of state cinemas rose to 23 units and the number of films imported until the end of 1357 increased by 155 rolls.

The annual publications increased by 3.8 million pages and in general a total of 60.5 million pages were printed in 1357.

In the field of public health greater achievements were made. The number of hospitals in the country was increased by 77 and the number of beds by 246. The number of beds throughout the country reached 4300. During the same period the number of doctors increased by 246 and the total number of doctors at the end of the year 1357 reached 1200 and the number of nurses counted for 2600.

In 1357 the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has carried out fruitful activities for the purpose of boosting up the national products of the country. To achieve this end it maintained all-sided economic relations with the friendly countries and international organisations in accordance with the principle of mutual interest. In the field of foreign trade the exchange of goods has been increased by 12 percent.

The Great Saur Revolution laid down the foundationstone for the implementation of the five-year economic and social development plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the basis of which it took effective measures in practice towards the development of industries, communications and transport, establishment of agricultural cooperatives, improvement of public health services and eradication of illiteracy in the country.

Planning is the main medium for the implementation of the programmes of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan to establish a society void of exploitation of man by man.

The implementation of the plan is based on the guidances and directives of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and president of the homeland's High Council of Defence, who has said: "The party programme should not remain just as a party programme but party programme should become a Khalqi programme and a programme of our economic development."

This is realised through combining profoundly theory and practice of planning whose aim is the implementation of the drawnup programmes of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The First Five-Year Plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is the most important phase of the implementation of the long-term economic and social development programme of Afghanistan which has been prepared by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

As explained in the directives of the plan, the main targets of the economic and social development five-year plan are as follows: Implementation of the policy statement of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan with the continuing participation and cooperation of all the toilers of the country and on the basis of reasonable concentration of revenues from domestic sources and effective use of foreign aids, natural resources, manpower and financial resources so as economic backwardness is finally wiped out from the country, national products are boosted up, social reforms are ensured, the standard of living of people is raised and the defence power of the country is strengthened.

For the realisation of the above objectives the following measures shall be taken:

Development of material and technical infrastructure of national products, creation of channels for new products and use of all the present natural resources and manpower in the country.

Creation of necessary conditions for industrialisation of the national economy through state sector, attraction of unconditional assistance from the friendly countries and international organisations, establishment of large state enterprises to meet the primary needs of the country in industrial sector, energy and power, new systems of irrigation, and communication projects, better utilisation of the capacity of the present enterprises and their expansion at a desirable scale and taking of serious measures to replace the used equipment at least cost with the object to boost up products.

To increase the national income during 1357-1362 by 25-29 percent or average annual rate of 4.5 or 5.2 percent, promote economic growth two folds compared with the past five years and increase the state revenues through state budget by 1.5 times.

To promote the rate of growth of industrial products, during this period the gross industrial products shall be increased by 1.6 to 1.7 percent. The rate of growth of means of production will be boosted up and the implementation of land reforms programme will be completed during the same period. On the basis of this measure actions will be taken for modernisation of agriculture and as a result of these effective and useful actions a desirable rate of growth of agricultural products will be achieved. Irrigation system of the agricultural lands will be developed and expanded, agricultural land will be improved to boost up agricultural output, technical implements and facilities will be introduced into the agriculture to achieve the desirable rate of growth in agricultural sector.

Proportional and balanced development will be achieved in construction of infrastructure of national economy through the development of communications, transport, road construction and water supply network.

The share of the state sector in the national economy will be enlarged considerably and during the five-year plan around 97 percent of the total amount of anticipated investment will be channelled into the state sector.

Necessary conditions will be provided for boosting up the level of activities of private enterprises and all-sided help to increase the national products in this sector.

The reasonable distribution and appropriation of the producing power will be improved with due consideration to the development of planned economy of the provinces and on the basis of establishment of effective relations between economic areas.

[12 Aug 79 p 3]

[Text] Necessary conditions shall be provided for undergoing social progressive reforms and raising of the standard of living of the people. The real income of the people should be increased and the amount of consumption shall go up. System of spending and meeting of essential needs of the people should be improved, retail trade system and consumer cooperatives to consolidate the link between the urban and rural areas should be established and expanded.

Necessary conditions should be provided for elimination of illiteracy, dissemination of primary education for all, and development and expansion of public health, culture and social circumstances of the toilers.

Economic relations with foreign countries should be expanded on the basis of principle of mutual benefit and effective use should be made of the loans and technical aids of the friendly countries for the purpose of boosting up national products and promotion of efficiency. Products of export should be increased through the development of industrial output and agriculture with due attention to upgrading their quality so as the competition power of the Afghan goods on foreign markets will be boosted and the volume of exports of goods increased with the object to fetch greater amount of foreign exchange.

The effectiveness of social services should be promoted and greater attention be paid to creation of further employment opportunities for working population. The rate of growth of productive work should be boosted and the effectiveness of utilisation of manpower should be developed, administrative reforms, utmost use of the working hours and work order and discipline should be encouraged.

A number of other real actions should be taken during the five-year plan in the state sector for improvement of work situation with due consideration to the following points:

In all the state industrial constructional institutes the entire equipment should be utilised at utmost capacity and methods of modern technology should be employed desirably and effective use should be made of the present constructional machinery and vehicles.

The new institutes should be made ready for production and should be equipped with skilled personnel. Likewise, new methods of work should be employed into different organisations and a system of work standardization and measures for diminishing work load should be applied.

The training of national cadres should be expanded and developed to meet the requirements of economic and social development. The standard of general education and vocational understanding of the workers should be raised further.

For the realisation of this end training should be carried out in the following form:

--On the spot individual and collective teaching;

--Orientation and specialised training of national cadres in various organisations of foreign countries;

--Training of the skilled workers in the vocational plants for a period of four years, graduates will have intermediary education;

--Training, in a new form, in the technical and vocational schools for a period of one year and two years.

For those whose level of education is lower than eight years, technical and vocational schools should be set up in the big industrial institutions, irrigation system and other projects. Similarly, teaching specialised centers should be established in big projects and constructional plants and similar fields.

Improvement of the model of the management of national economy for the purpose of making use of the preferences and possibilities of the planned economy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, effectuation of the plan and economic measures such as prices, loans [sic], taxation policy, profit and loss accounts and contracts and also expansion of various types of material and moral incentives for the purpose of raising the level of effectiveness of social services and achieving of better results in economic affairs;

Maintaining of harmony and coordination between the plan and state budget and creation of necessary conditions and circumstances for the improvement of matters pertaining to the plan financing; preparation of a uniform state budget for the purpose of concentrating budgetary resources and rational use of financial resources and strict control over expenditure and investment in the state sector;

Establishment of a planning system, encouraging economic incentives in the state enterprises and institutions with due consideration to promotion of efficiency in matters related to the increase in the state revenues and saving in the financial resources;

In order to improve and promote the efficiency of work in the concerned departments, ministries, state enterprises and cooperative organisations and relative responsibility of the workers should be increased.

Effective system of utilisation of consumer goods and control over the payment of salaries should be established. For further costate planning a link should be established between state commercial, agricultural institutes and agricultural cooperatives.

In the activity of the government organisations a planned index system coupled with accounting, reporting and control system and a system of implementation of the plan should be applied. Likewise, state statistical system which could cover all the economic and cultural development fields should be established and applied. Along with this for the purpose of execution of the state plans the present system of analysis and assessment of the economy and short term predictions should be carried on so as the difficulties and problems which may arise during the implementation of the plan will be overcome.

[13 Aug 79 p 2]

[Text] For the purpose of implementing provincial planning, planning organs should be established in the provinces and the plans should be harmonized and coordinated on the basis of price and quantity balances and productive capacity indice and manpower. In principle there should be maintained a reasonable balance between the five-year plans and the annual plans.

Price and quantity balances should be worked out for the purpose of harmonizing the entire indices of the plan, indicating the problems in certain fields and predicting measures to overcome them. Likewise, a system of norm and standardization and calculation of consumption of raw materials, fuels, power and energy and control over usage of resources should be applied.

The development of science in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan should be encouraged in line with the aims of the Great Saur Revolution and according to the programmes of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The role of the Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan as a center of scientific researches and studies should be expanded and the Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan and other institutes of research and studies should be developed further from a technical and material point of view during the years 1358-1362.

More scientific studies and researches should be conducted on modern issues of development of the new society of Afghanistan and further attention should be focused on the solution of scientific problems and technical problems of social welfare development with due consideration to the development of culture of the entire nationalities of Afghanistan. Research and scientific activities should be further carried out in the institutions of high learning of Afghanistan and special attention should be given to the training of the scientific cadres.

For the expansion and development of scientific activities the following principles should be taken into consideration:

--Studies and researches should be made on the problems of philosophy, economics, history and archeology;

--In the field of natural sciences, scientific activities should be carried out in the fields of botany, zoology, biology and medicine;

--Scientific studies and research activities should be expanded in the field of geology for the purpose of discovering useful mines and its effective utilisation with the object to meet the requirements of national economy of the country;

--Further researches and scientific activities should be conducted in the fields of chemistry, physics and practical mathematics to be applied in the national economy;

--Studies should be conducted in the field of linguistics, literature, teaching of language and literature of all the nationalities of Afghanistan, strengthening and consolidation of scientific activities in Khalqi folklore of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan;

--Printing and supply of the scientific works of Afghan scholars;

--Expansion of all scientific contacts of the scientific institutions of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with international organisations and agencies.

Development of agricultural sector during the five-year economic and social development plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will be as follows:

Increase of agricultural products, enhancement of efficiency in agricultural affairs and cattle raising for the purpose of full supply of foodstuffs and industrial raw materials, increase of export reserves, agricultural products and creation of necessary reserves of agricultural products in the state sector.

Necessary conditions should be created for efficiency in agricultural products through implementation of the land reforms programme and establishment of agricultural cooperatives, and state farms, further development of irrigation projects, mechanisation of agricultural products and use of chemical fertilizer and improved cultivation seeds etc. so as the agricultural output of the country will be rapidly increased compared with the period prior to the Saur Revolution.

The average volume of annual gross agricultural products should be increased 10 and 12 folds compared with the past five years. In this way the rate of growth of agricultural products should be increased three folds.

During the five-year plan the level of work productivity in the state sector should be increased 1.5 times. The gross agricultural output which is produced by the agricultural cooperatives should be increased 45 percent of the total volume of agricultural products at the end of the plan period, 1362.

The volume of purchases of agricultural materials by the state in 1362 will be predicted as follows:

Grains from 170,000 to 180,000 tons;

Cotton seeds from 215,000 to 230,000 tons;

Sugar beet from 220,000 to 240,000 tons;

Sale of citrus fruit of the state farms of Jalalabad during the year 1362 from 20,000 tons to 22,000 tons;

Olive from 4,000 to 6,000 tons;

The purchase of wheat seeds of the state farms belonging to the Improved Seeds Company will be increased from 7,000 tons to 7.1 thousand tons.

In the cattle raising sector it is envisaged that the volume of animal products such as meat, milk, egg, wool, hides, karakul pelts and other animal products will be boosted up by promoting the productivity of animals and cattle, and increasing the number of cattle and by fruitful utilisation of animal food and improvement of animal breed.

For the purpose of integrated development of agriculture in the country 26 billion afghanis will be invested in agriculture during the plan years and this figure will be 2.1 times greater than the past five years. From this amount a total sum of 16 billion afghanis will be invested in irrigation.

During the five-year development plan 20,000 hectares of new land will be brought under irrigation and the irrigation situation of 60,000 hectares of the present land will be improved.

For the expansion and development of irrigation establishments a definite number of constructional plants and machinery repairment workshops will be established.

Simultaneous with the construction of basic projects (general canal dams) work on construction of irrigation networks will be carried out and land will be made ready for cultivation.

It is envisaged that in the first step for the solution of basic problems of agriculture the volume of production of grains, industrial plants,

citrus and olive will be increased. Development of cattle raising and increase in cattle foodstuffs are predicted and consequently the period for construction of the projects will be shortened.

The expansion of reserves in the state sectors will be ensured on the basis of construction of four state farms for production of wheat and other agricultural output. In order to help these farms render their services properly, a station equipped with tractors and other technical facilities will be constructed.

It is planned that cultivation of improved seeds will be encouraged. Of the total areas under cultivation 50-60 percent, 40-50 percent, 70-80 percent, and 60-70 percent should be cultivated wheat, rice, cotton and sugar beet respectively.

The production of improved seeds will be increased in the state farms and agricultural and peasants cooperatives. In 1362 a total amount of 270,000 tons of chemical fertilizer will be used in agriculture and during the First Five-Year Plan the total use of fertilizer will reach one million tons.

Chemical fertilizer warehouses and distribution network of the Afghan Chemical Fertilizer Company will be expanded.

Campaign against animal and plant pests and diseases will be increased very much. Research and study laboratories will be set up for protection of plants and centers will be constructed for inspection of export and import commodities.

For the purpose of surveying the conditions of cultivation of various types of agricultural grains with due consideration to environmental conditions in various parts of the country research works will be expanded and the norms of use of chemical fertilizer will be promoted. Courses and seminars will be conducted for acquainting the farmers with the ways of use of chemical fertilizer, improved seeds and the like. The number of demonstration plots will be increased in the department of extension and development of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms. In order to achieve further development in cattle raising during the five-year plan the reserves of animal foodstuffs will be increased through improvement of pastures and animal stables in winter and taking of veterinary measures in the same period. Construction of 30 animal stables and storage rooms for animal foodstuffs and sinking of 30 deep wells, construction of 30 animal drinking places and improvement of pastures have been envisaged during the plan period.

Veterinary sub-clinic will be expanded and likewise it is planned that two quarantine centers will be constructed until 1362 and in 1362, 25 million heads of cattle will be protected and treated in the above clinics.

[14 Aug 79 p 2]

[Text] With the construction of a new poultry complex 25 million eggs and 5 million chickens, 12,000 heads of high bred cattle will averagely be produced per year. Construction of farms for raising 400 heads of milking cows has been envisaged.

During the years 1358-1362, 4,500 cooperatives which would embrace 1.1 million families should be established. Furthermore, 4,100 assisting funds and 8,000 peasant associations should be organised.

Necessary conditions will be provided in the cooperatives for further use of improved seeds, chemical fertilizer, tractors and other agricultural machinery and state aids will be supplied to the cooperatives. Forests should be protected, expanded and improved.

Extension of planetrees [sic] and pistacheo should be improved. The average annual gross products of forests will amount to 930 million afghanis in the 5-year economic and social development plan.

For the purpose of development of forests 300 million afghanis will be invested during the years 1358-1362.

Development of industries:

Fulfillment of the needs and requirements of national economy and the needs of the population for variety of better products and promotion of production efficiency in all fields should be the main targets of industrial sector of the 5-year development plan.

To achieve this end the following measures should be carried out: During the 5-year plan production of industrial output should be raised 1.6 and 1.7 times. In the state industrial sector industrial products should go up 1.8 to 2 times. Meanwhile the relative share of the state sector in the overall industrial output will be increased up to 41 percent in 1362.

The level of work productivity in the state industries should be increased up to 17-20 percent during the 5-year plan.

More than 54 billion afghanis should be invested by the state in industry and power energy. In other words 3.2 times more money will be allotted to industries compared with the past 5 years.

The share of the energy, power, fuels and metallurgy complexes should be enlarged in the total volume of industrial output by utilization of the existing discovered oil, gas, coal, copper, barite mines and the like and in this way organisational structure of industries will be improved. Therefore, according to the above considerations the volume of investment in the above mentioned fields should be increased 4.8 folds.

At the same time the production of goods needed by the people especially in the fields of light industries and food industry should be increased and expanded.

Necessary economic facilities will be provided for further growth of the traditional industrial looms and handicrafts by attracting human power and drawing on the artistic experiences of the people.

The basic lines of the development of industries should be drawn up in the 5-year plan as follows:

Promotion of efficiency in energy, power and fuel complexes from the point of view of change in production composition.

Utilisation of fuels and better coordination between different types of fuels, undertaking regional projects mentioned above, and construction of energy-and-power harmonizing projects to the extent possible.

In the field of power energy the rate of growth of production during the 5-year development plan will be increased 1.5-1.6 times. The production of power energy will be increased 1.4 billion kWh in 1962.

The installation capacity of power in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will be increased approximately 18 percent in the course of the 5-year plan.

The USSR-Kunduz power transmission line, with a capacity of 110 kilowatts, and the power transmission line from USSR to Mazar-i-Sharif, with a capacity of 220 kilowatts, will be extended and similarly the 110 kilowatts line from Naghlo to Jalalabad and from Mazar-i-Sharif to Jarqdoq will go into operation.

Power networks of Kabul, Kandahar, Herat, Balkh and other cities will be further expanded. The power distribution network will be amended for purpose of boosting up efficiency in the power energy sector. As a result of this the volume of power wastages shall be decreased further at the end of the 5-year plan.

An industrial complex embracing mines and general pipelines and oil refinery will be established at a capacity of 500,000 tons of oil per year for the purpose of establishing oil industry in the Angout, Aq-Darya and Qashquarey mines. The consumption of oil products will be increased 2 to 2.3 folds at the end of the 5-year plan so as the relative share of oil in the balance of fuels of the country is increased.

In the gas industry the rate of extraction of natural gas should be increased 20-30 percent during the 5-year plan.

In the present mine of Khawja Gogerduck a compressor will be constructed and preparations will be made for exploitation of the new wells.

Two billion cubic meters of gas will be extracted annually from the new gas mine of Jarqdoq.

As far as the coal industry is concerned the volume of extraction of coal will be increased 2.6-2.7 times. On the basis of improvement in technological affairs and for the rapid growth of coal extraction more efficiency should be introduced into the above field.

The coal extraction capacity in the northern parts of the country, and the Sabzak coal mine of Herat Province should be enhanced. For the purpose of strengthening the economic position of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and for continuing earning of foreign exchange and establishment of new industrial areas, such as electrotechnic industry, construction work on the Ainak Copper Factory should be commenced. This will include the expansion of mine, barite enriching factory, and copper melting factory and subestablishments power energy resources, roads, Institute of Workshop Construction and also social infrastructural projects (living quarters, personnel training centers, schools, hospitals, kindergartens, nurseries, etc.).

The primary production capacity of Ainak Copper Factory should be fixed at 14,000 tons concentrate and 110,000 tons pure copper.

The barite enriching factory of Sanghlan should be established and put into operation at a capacity of 33,000 tons concentrate and 10,000 tons of powdered barite during the 5-year economic and social development plan.

In the chemical industries of the state organisations the volume of chemical fertilizer and other chemical products should be increased through improvement of administrative system and technical measures. In the fertilizer manufacturing factory of Mazar-i-Sharif the production of fertilizer should be increased 5-8 percent.

[15 Aug 79 p 2]

[Text] During the 5-year plan the primary material resources of the present institutes and new chemical, oil and gas industries should be expanded vastly, scientifically and stage by stage.

The survey and prospecting affairs of coal mines including Shabashak and Sabzak mines and the other mines of Dara-i-Souf District should be further expanded.

In addition, during the 5-year plan prospecting and mapping of the above district should be undertaken for the purpose of finding new resources and evaluating the existing mines.

Geological studies should be vastly carried on in the Ainak copper mine with the object to discover further resources of raw material for the copper factory.

Special attention should be drawn to consolidation of geological affairs of phosphate for production of phosphate fertilizer in the country.

The effectiveness of the geological studies should be enhanced further and the funds which are allotted for this purpose should be spent economically.

To achieve the above end the quality of technical equipment should be promoted for research purposes and greater use should be made of the searches and studies and modern methods of geochemistry, geophysics and geology.

During the 5-year plan the machine manufacturing activity and metal work of Jangalak factory should be improved. In the above factory the level of work productivity and production should be raised and production of agricultural implements and tools should be boosted in the Jangalak factory.

During the 5-year plan the products of wood industry in the state sector should be approximately raised three folds through creation of new institutes.

Owing to the rapid rate of growth in the volume of basic constructions, further expansion of construction material industry should be taken into view in the 5-year plan.

In the course of the 5-year development plan the volume of production of construction materials should be increased around 2.7 folds. Level of the production of cement should be raised 2.5 to 2.7 times. The Herat Cement Factory should start production at a capacity of 210,000 tons per year and the new cement factory of Ghorī should be constructed at an annual production capacity of 250,000 tons in the first phase. The volume of concrete products should be increased three folds in 5 years.

During the 5-year plan two new brickmaking factories at a total annual production capacity of 75 million first grade bricks should be put up. In 1362 the production of bricks in the state enterprises should be increased up to 50 million.

The amount of extraction of plaster of Paris for constructional purposes should reach 30,000-40,000 tons at the end of the 5-year plan.

The coal tar producing plant should be operated at a capacity of 40,000 tons per year until the end of the 5-year plan.

For the purpose of meeting the need of the people for clothes, boots and foodstuffs and for the purpose of cutting short the import of foreign goods and promoting exports of domestic products a number of measures should be undertaken in the 5-year development plan with the object to expand and develop light industries in the country. To achieve this end around 25 institutes of light and food industries should be established from the investment made by the state during 1358-1362.

In the 5-year plan the volume of production of light industries should be doubled in the public sector.

The volume of products of gin and press plants should be increased through better utilisation of the existing capacities, equipping and expanding of the present plants and construction of new factories. At the same time necessary measures should be undertaken for promotion of the quality and quantity of products.

With due consideration to the raw cotton resources the volume of ginned cotton in the public institutions should be increased by 59,000 tons in 1362.

During the First 5-Year Plan of DRA the gin and press plants of the Spinzar Company will be improved and two new gin and press factories will be established each at a capacity of 9,000 tons of ginned cotton.

The volume of cotton textiles in the state enterprises during the 5-year plan will be increased 200 million meters and this figure will be 2.2 times of the volume produced in 1358. For the realisation of this target new textile factories will be established in Herat, Kandahar, Balkh, Taluqan, and Bagram cities at a total capacity of 15 million meters of textile and 1.5 thousand tons of thread. The Puli-Khumri Textile Factory will be expanded at a capacity of 20 million meters per year.

The Puli-Charkhi Woolen Factory will be technically equipped further and its total woolen fabrics production will be increased 1.2 million meters in 1362.

In order to promote the work efficiency of the textile plants the following measures should be undertaken during the 5-year development plan:

Necessary actions should be taken for collection, purchase and processing of raw cotton and reduction of wastages and promotion of quality thereupon.

Actions should be taken for the improvement of the cotton textiles and their ontime sale to consumers.

During the 5-year development plan the volume of products of food industry in the state enterprises should be increased 2.6 or 2.8 folds.

The Baghlan Sugar Factory will start production at a capacity of 27,000 tons per year.

The amount of sugar production in 1362 will be increased 30,000 tons per year or 2.9 folds compared with the year 1357. To supply raw material to the sugar factory necessary actions will be taken during the 5-year plan.

CSO: 4920

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOL WITH USSR--The protocol for the supply and production of vaccine and serum materials for the Vaccine and Serum Institute was signed today between the Ministry of Public Health and the Soviet Union. The protocol was signed by Dr (Mahmud), the first deputy minister of public health, and vice-commercial counsellor at the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. Some departmental heads of the Ministry of Public Health and staff members of the Soviet Embassy were also present during the signing ceremony of the protocol. [Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 20 Aug 79 LD]

PRISONERS PARDONED--The Office of the Revolutionary Council reports that the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, on the occasion of the 'Id al-Fitr and in view of his great humanity feelings, has pardoned 464 men and women prisoners in the capital and the provinces. This humanity intention of our great leader for the release of the prisoners has been communicated to the authorities concerned through the Ministry of Interior. [Text] [Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 22 Aug 79 LD]

CSO: 4920

WRITER REVIEWS FORCES ARRAYED AGAINST AL-SADAT

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 22 Jul 79 p 9

[Article: "Officers Grumbling About Lack of Arms and Mobilization Against Libya; Al-Sadat at America's Recommendation: A Coptic Base for the Regime; The People Are Wondering: Why Martial Law Since the War Is Over?"]

[Text] President al-Sadat's regime is facing at least three crises today: they involve the army, national unity and the position on democratic freedoms.

The Army

The first signs of the crisis in the army appeared after the transfer of major units of the armed forces from the canal area to the border with the Libyan Jamahiriya. Questions spread among the officers and men of these units about the purpose for their presence on the Libyan border and how patriotic such a policy was, and an analysis became rife among them to the effect that they had been transferred to the western desert to keep the armed forces away from the canal area on the one hand and away from centers of population on the other lest they pose a threat to the regime.

Tension, however, escalated in the air force in particular after the Syrian-Israeli air battle over Lebanon. This battle gave rise to a comparison in air force circles between Israel's inventory of aircraft and what Washington had promised Egypt, and the result of the comparison was the conclusion that the promised F-5 aircraft was clearly ineffective in combatting the Israeli Air Force. The result was an outcry that went so far that the commander of the air force stated publicly in front of the pilots: "We are thereby becoming powerless to defend the homeland."

This statement cost him his job, as a short time later he was removed to be replaced by an obscure officer.

There is a widely held belief in officer circles that the situation of the air force commander is not unique and that his removal was part of a plan designed to replace officers with personalities capable of showing defiance with elements known to be compliant.

Playing on Sectarianism

The crisis of national unity is manifested in the tendency of the al-Sadat regime to play on sectarianism by polarizing the Coptic sect, either by dangling enticements or by intimidation.

The fact is that in pursuing this line, al-Sadat is driven by an American desire and is operating in accordance with a plan supervised by the CIA, since Washington persuaded al-Sadat that he could make the Coptic Church in Egypt a stable base for his regime, particularly since it could play an influential role on the popular level with its well consolidated organization covering most members of the sect.

At the same time, Washington is working to form its pockets among the Copts, particularly among the clergy, which in recent years has included large numbers of persons who combine both a secular education and ecclesiastical training. Pope Shanudah, for example, was an instructor and reserve officer in the armed forces and belonged to the journalists union. Also, Abba Samuil, bishop of services, used to be a teacher at an American institute. What is known about the positions of the Coptic Church in the regime of the late President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir is that it was always in the ranks of progressive movements, these stances on its part having been reinforced by a number of progressive Coptic thinkers and politicians. However, since the beginning of the al-Sadat regime and following the alliance with Israel under the patronage of Washington, America has begun to put pressure on the Coptic Church and on the Egyptian regime to create a mutuality of interests: the church would support the regime and, in return, it and its pro-regime members would get certain concessions. This might explain the appointment of Fikri (Victor) Mukarram 'Ubayd as secretary general of al-Sadat's party. During the recent elections, in response to al-Sadat's wishes the Coptic Church issued a directive that forbade voting for candidates of the left and threatening religious sanctions for anyone violating this order. One of the Coptic candidates in al-Minya Governorate was the dean of the lawyers' guild, Hakim Yani, who is known to be a leftist. He asked the archbishop of the city of Hala to permit him to nominate himself as an independent instead of being a candidate for the left, and he approved but nonetheless ordered his parish not to elect him.

Martial Law

The source of the democracy crisis is al-Sadat's announcement that the war with Israel is over and the onset of a life of peace and stability since this caused people to wonder: Why then haven't the extraordinary laws and martial law been abrogated? In addition, they wonder: If the war is over, the war being the cause of the economic crisis according to the government, why is the economic crisis continuing and getting worse?

However, these questions are still in an unorganized context among the people, though they do constitute a strong trend.

On the level of organized political action, the opposition is almost completely blockaded, but still asserts its effectiveness.

The Egyptian opposition can be categorized into three types: public opposition, semi-public opposition and secret opposition.

Among the public opposition, the National Unionist Progressive Grouping represents the only political party in it. The other parties are not like it, since the "Nationalist Party" does not exist outside Parliament, and the "Liberals Party" is virtually extinct. The "Socialist Action Party" is suffering from a split between the group led by Mahmud Abu Wa'iyah, which is linked with al-Sadat, and the Ibrahim Shukri group that represents an extension of the "Young Egypt Party."

This party would also be virtually at a standstill were it not for al-Sadat's backing. Even Ibrahim Shukri would have lost in the recent elections had al-Sadat not personally intervened when he called in the minister of the interior, Nabawi Isma'il, and said to him: "Hey Nabawi, if Ibrahim Shukri doesn't win, I'll cut off your head."

To establish the relationship of this party with the establishment, it is sufficient to cite the fact that Ibrahim Shukri attended the opening session of Parliament, a procedural session in which political issues are not dealt with, and Shukri was surprised to hear Fikri Mukarram 'Ubayd direct thanks to Nabawi Isma'il for "running the cleanest elections in the history of Egypt." Shukri raised the objection that the session was earmarked for procedural matters and then withdrew. The issue was interpreted as a protest. Nabawi Isma'il got in touch with Shukri and cautioned him against going too far and getting emotional, and invited him to return to the assembly, and he did so.

The following are the semi-public parties:

"The National Front Party" which is being established. Its activity is limited and it is liberal in orientation. It should be pointed out that the parties law was amended to prevent this party from getting through. Also, the issue of the Bulgarian Embassy and the charge of spying for Bulgaria was fabricated to involve a group of members of the party and its leader, Dr Mahmud al-Qadi.

"The Moslem Brotherhood." Its political side is the "AL-DA'WAH Magazine Group," which functions openly as a party and proclaims that on the pages of the magazine. AL-DA'WAH took a stand against the unilateral peace agreement and was suspended, and then agreement was reached on letting it reappear on condition that it not allude to the agreement.

This lenient stance toward the establishment has strengthened the position of the secret radical Moslem groups.

With regard to the Wafd Party led by Fu'ad Sarraj, it is still in existence, although the regime does not recognize it.

The secret groups can be split two ways:

1. The radical religious groups that adhere to the appeal of Abu al-A'la al-Mawdudi and Sayyid Qatb, which state: We, the Moslem group, are governed

by the commander of the faithful, and he who is not with us is in a state of pagan ignorance. It represents a split from the Moslem Brotherhood, and among these groups are the al-Tafkir and al-Hijrah Group, the al-Jihad Group and the Jundallah Group.

2. The Leftist groups which comprise the Egyptian Communist Labor Party and the 8 January Party. These trends have been active in the university. The Communist Party is the strongest and most effective of the secret parties and although it bears some burdens from the past, it has benefited from the experiences of the 1971-1975 years, since it reorganized itself, attracted the "migrating birds" from the Nasirist organizations, readied a cadre unknown to the public and announced itself during the time of the arrest of the known leadership.

The Nasirist organization has so far not been given a name, and includes personnel from the Vanguardist Organization, the formation of which is not yet complete.

This is a brief picture of the situation in Egypt. Given the difficulties and dangers facing al-Sadat's regime, and although no capable force or quarter has yet appeared to seize power from the establishment, reviewing and studying the details of this situation leads one to one conclusion: This regime cannot last.

8389

CSO: 4802

EGYPT

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF SINAI OILFIELDS DISCUSSED

Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 25 Jul 79 p 7

[Article by Ibrahim Rashid: "Restored Oil Treasures in Sinai"]

[Text] Which oil-rich areas will be regained following the Israeli withdrawal? What is their future importance in terms of oil production? Will the returning oil wells be an indicator to the availability of oil deposits around them?

In the following article, oil experts in Egypt will answer these questions clearly and discuss the future of this area of the Sinai desert which will be returned.

Engineer Samir Tadrus, vice president of the Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company and director of the Sinai oilfields in the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation says that the importance of this area lies in its proximity to the existing oilfields. The returned oil wells are:

Oil well No 15 in 'Asal oilfield

Three oil wells in Ras Matarqah oilfield

A water well in Sidri field or Sidri area

All these fields were discovered during 1948 - 1949 by two oil companies: Socon (Vacuum?) and the Anglo-Egyptian Oil Wells Company. At present, these wells are not producing oil. They were closed many years ago because their total production, at best, never exceeded the level of 1,000 barrels daily. On the other hand, the production capacity of some of the currently operated wells in the offshore Ramadan oilfield, managed by the Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company, reaches the level of 25,000 barrels daily.

Engineer Samir Tadrus went on to say: The returned oil wells are about one kilometer from the line separating us from the returned area. I believe that the returned area over which the Egyptian flag will be raised within the next few days will be the scene of extensive oil exploration

activities, especially when we know that the closed wells, during the forties, produced oil from one oil formation. Since that date, there have been breakthroughs in petroleum technology, especially with respect to the preliminary exploration operations carried out by the seismograph and applications of air and ground magnetism. In addition, the drilling equipment available today is quite different from the equipment used for drilling during that time. Today's drilling machinery can reach the remotest depths of the earth. I believe that the returned area will be the scene of a new and comprehensive survey.

Six Oilfields in the Area

What makes the newly returned area important is the fact that the international American Mobil Oil Company is exploring for oil in an adjacent area, under an agreement concluded last year between Mobil Oil and the Petroleum General Organization. Engineer Ibrahim Radwan, the director general of the international agreements section at the General Petroleum Organization says: The returned oil wells are worthless because they don't produce now. They were closed a long time ago. At best, their production in the past never went beyond 250 barrels a day for each. In other words, their total production was not more than 1,000 barrels daily. It is true that oil prices in the world market have risen sharply, that a well in the United States which produces 50 barrels daily has become important and that any quantity of oil that can be produced from the returned six oil wells will be considered economical, measured by any criteria.

I asked Dr Radwan: What is the significance of the returned area in terms of oil production?

The Egyptian oil expert smiled and said: To be frank with you, let me tell you that the returned oil wells, despite their modest economic importance at present, are surrounded by six oilfields considered to be important indicators. These fields are:

The old Akma field

The old Nazzazat field

Al-Balai'm land field

Al-Balai'm offshore fields

The Deminex-Shell field recently discovered under the waters of the Suez Gulf

Another field under the waters of the Suez Gulf which is shared by the Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company and Amoco

These six fields are considered important indicators because, undoubtedly, the neighboring oil formations extend to these fields. For this reason, a number of international oil companies have sent representatives to Cairo to negotiate concessions in this area extending from the borders of Abu Rudays oilfields on the western coast of the Sinai Peninsula to the shelf of igneous rocks where the Sinai coastal plain ends and the rugged mountainous area begins.

Engineer Radwan went on to say that the Egyptian minister of petroleum, Engineer Ahmad Hilal is kept up to date about the details of the current negotiations between the General Petroleum Organization and the representatives of these international oil companies seeking concessions in this new land. There is oil in this land. Since the discovery of oil in this land during the late forties, the oil exploration equipment has greatly changed. All these companies are seeking contractual agreements.

When I asked the director of the international agreements section to reveal the identities of the companies seeking concessions in the restored territory, he said: "The current negotiations obligate us to keep the secrets of the negotiating companies in order to allow the Egyptian negotiators to achieve the greatest possible advantages to their country. I believe that we will reach decisions about the various bids within the forthcoming few weeks. We will, then, submit a report to the minister of petroleum, Engineer Ahmad Hilal, to enable him to choose the most appropriate bid that best serves the interests of Egypt and the future of this land.

I asked: Did Israel attempt to explore oil in this area and if so, did it discover any oil deposits?

The director of international agreements answered: "I cannot answer this question. For, since when does Israel announce anything it does? However, I do not think that Israel carried out any oil exploration operations. Had it done so, it would have built a pipeline from these wells to the shore to transport oil when the Abu Rudays oilfield were still under its control. But, today, it will be easy to carry out any development project in the new land because of the proximity of the Abu Rudays oilfields. In case oil is discovered in the restored land, we can use all the facilities available in the neighboring Abu Rudays oilfields, such as oil tanks, the oil shipping port, the airport and the asphalted roads. Furthermore, if teams of experts from the international oil companies are to move to the new land, they can use all the facilities of the neighboring oilfields in the Abu Rudays and Balai'm areas.

The Future

The land restored from the Israeli occupation neighbors an oil-rich area. The small oil wells it contains, despite their modest output, were once upon a time like lamps lighting the road when oil could be found only in this area.

They were the first wells where oil appeared in the Sinai. Their importance stems from the fact that they are planted within a forest of oil in the Sinai and under the waters of the Gulf of Suez and offshore the western coast of the Suez Gulf in Ras Gharib, Bakr, Shuqayr and many other areas.

A great future awaits this land which has not yet revealed its secrets.

6800

CSO: 4802

GOVERNOR OF AL 'ARISH INTERVIEWED

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 26 Jul 79 p 12

[Interview with the Governor of al-Arish Muhammad Husayn Shawkat on the current situation in the city by Ismail Younis]

[Excerpts] The official spoke. He is Governor Muhammad Husayn Shawkat, a former director of military intelligence and one of the most knowledgeable officials in the affairs of the area since 1948. He was occupying the same office used by the Israeli governor of al-'Arish and who faces tens of problems and who demands acceleration of the implementation process, elimination of the red tape and guiding the entire northern Sinai during the difficult stage of transition. I had a frank dialog with the governor in which I played the role of the prosecutor or the interrogator and received answers to my questions.

[Question] The number one problem is the problem of water. I have personally felt this problem. Some people drink water transported in tanks from al-Qantara. Others get their drinking water from the laundromat still under joint Israeli-Egyptian control. The tap water in al-'Arish is so saline that it is unbearable. What do you think? Are you building a pipeline from al-Qantara?

[Answer] Not at all. They are the victims of an Israeli deception. Before they departed, the Jews spread the rumor that they would cut the drinking water pipeline coming from Beersheba. But that was a lie. Al-'Arish drinks the same water. The salinity of this water is a bit higher than it used to be because of greater consumption owing to progress and development. While average consumption per person was 30 liters daily, it has now reached 100 liters daily. All that we have to do is dig new water wells to replace the older ones and thus improve the quality of water. Israel itself is suffering a water crisis. The Israeli forces which will remain in Sinai until the end of the withdrawal period are drinking water from al-'Arish water resources. This is provided for by the peace treaty itself. I was a member of the Egyptian delegation to the negotiations. Under the terms of the treaty, the Israelis are getting 2,500 cubic meters of water daily and will continue to do so until the end of the transition period.

There have never been water pipelines from Beersheba or any other place in Israel. We are now drilling a water well in al-'Arish with a production capacity of 1,500 cubic meters of water daily. Experiments on the well were completed and it will be operative within the coming 2 days, at most.

[Question] The first and foremost problem is the problem of the unemployed or the so-called casualties of peace. What plans do you have to solve it?

[Answer] First of all, you have to consider the fact that we took over control of al-'Arish just 1 month and 17 days ago. The unemployed workers, estimated at 6,000, were working inside Israel on a daily basis, or served the Israeli armed forces. They include industrial workers, agricultural workers and technicians such as mechanics, plumbers, builders and other categories of workers. To employ these workers, many projects are needed.

[Question] By the way, what budget for Sinai were you given, as a governor, for the reconstruction and development of Sinai?

[Answer] Not a single millieme (penny).

[A senior official of the governorate, who was present, interrupted saying: We need 5 million Egyptian pounds for the remaining part of the year... only 5 million pounds. But nobody pays any attention to our needs.]

The governor continued: All that we do here is realized by our own personal efforts.

[Question] I am sorry to hear this. Please go on.

[Answer] I asked every unemployed worker to report to the labor force office at the governorate to fill out a form. Our aim was to classify them into categories in order to know how many mechanics and how many construction workers we have, etc. We told them that we did not need any supporting documents. But only 428 unemployed workers came and filled out the forms.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] First, because they were afraid of the draft. It was an Israeli-planted idea. Secondly: They wanted to go back to work in Israel, thinking that they could get higher wages there. The cost of living here has become so low to the extent that they asked me to allow them to enter Israel and work there for one week every month. Of course, I refused to do so. Let it be known that even after the opening of the borders and the normalization of relations, I will not allow them to go to Israel and work there. Their country needs them. They should get accustomed to live as Egyptians and nationals. This is a matter of nationalism.

[Question] Why don't you pay them subsidies until you find jobs for them? Should they be left to die of hunger?

[Answer] In fact, we are paying unemployment compensation for those who registered their names. When we started payment, the number of those who registered rose to 2,700 workers. The Ministry of Social Affairs is paying them compensation in money and in kind. Every unemployed worker gets 10 kilos of rice, 10 kilos of flour, 7 kilos of sugar, two tins of butter and 15 Egyptian pounds monthly. They were paid unemployment compensation for 3 months, all at once. So far 51,000 Egyptian pounds have been paid to those who possessed the bottom half of their work card. In addition, I obligated the companies that wished to come here to work in any project not to bring workers from outside Sinai. They have to use workers from Sinai. Guess what happened? They refused to work. Even the company contracted to repair and improve my house could not find workers to do the job. I told them that the unemployment subsidies will not be issued for the rest of their lives. They have to move around to find employment. At present, we have some projects where they can work.

As for the industrial workers, we have a clothing factory which needs 150 girls and women. We also have a new plastic factory. In August, construction of a large hotel will begin. This project will absorb construction workers and will need technicians when it is completed. There are other hotels being built by the private sector.

As for the agricultural workers, we will begin the implementation of development projects in al-Arish Farm which used to be called Makhal Yin'un. A total of 140 farm families will be settled there. The workers told me that the Egyptian contractor wanted to fix their wages at 3 Egyptian pounds daily while they could get 15 Egyptian pounds daily from Israel! I said: You should be ashamed of yourselves. The cost of living here is very low.

[Question] What about the problem of the automobiles? You created the problem yourself. You asked them by radio to buy cars. Then you ordered to have the plates removed from the purchased cars. The residents of Sinai bought 2,000 cars which now lie idle like corpses. What is the solution?

[Answer] Before the area was returned to Egypt, I had been in touch with all its problems. I knew that the residents used their savings, in Israeli currency, to buy foodstuffs, thinking that there was a crisis of supplies in Egypt. That was wrong. Through a weekly program broadcast by Sawt al-'Arab, we used to address them and advise them to buy tools, machines, equipment and electric saws, rather than foods. In fact, some of them bought carpentry workshops. Others bought trucks. While I had advised them to buy equipment that would be useful for their country, yet most of them bought trucks, taxis and private cars. Most of the 1,267 motor vehicles purchased were 7-passenger Mercedes used cars. Had they purchased, instead, tour buses for example, I would have established a tour company for them.

[Question] In any case, what will happen to their cars? The price of one car can support a whole family, if not several families.

[Answer] I went to Cairo and discussed the problem with the minister of finance. I asked him to exempt them from paying custom duties on these cars since they are considered imported goods, and he agreed to do so. I am grateful.

[Question] So, what happened later?

[Answer] Before I received a letter from the minister of finance, confirming his decision, I ordered the implementation of the decision. Starting, today, we will issue 35 licenses and plates daily. Although there is a ban on (al-Jas?) motor vehicles, in Egypt, yet I succeeded in getting an exemption to allow them to drive their cars to any place in the country.

[Question] But why 35 cars daily? This is a low figure and there are many cars to deal with!

[Answer] This is the best we can do at present. All that we require from them is to have any kind of document to prove ownership of the car, even an Israeli document. Some of them come for registration without any document at all. This is unacceptable. The car may be stolen property. Three persons, for an example, came separately to register the same car. Every one of them claimed to be the owner and none of them had any document to prove ownership. This is nonsense!!

[Question] Then there is the problem of fishing in al-Bardawil Lake. How did you agree to grant a fishing monopoly over the lake to a private company, managed by a former military officer, said to be one of your relatives? Or, even, how could you agree to allow the company to operate 40 (shanshulabs?) that would kill the fish resources and the future of the lake. This issue needs a lot of clarification.

[Answer] Before 1967, a man from al-'Arish, named Ahmad Abu Dhikra had a monopoly over fishing in the lake, in return for an annual fee of 8,000 Egyptian pounds paid to the government. He had full monopoly. After the second disengagement of forces, a marketing company from the public sector took over. The 3,000 fishermen used to deliver to the company just a limited part of their catch. They always complained against the company. I formed a higher committee, with myself as president to deal with the problem of fishing in the lake. I raised many issues connected with the lake. I looked for a company, in the private sector, with a capacity of exporting the fish from the lake in order to secure hard currencies that could be used to finance development projects. I found such a company owned by Engineer 'Izzat 'Abd-al-Wahab, a former undersecretary of the Ministry of Land Reclamation and a United Nations expert. After consultations with the fishermen, we concluded an agreement with him. The director of this company was a former military officer and a relative of 'Izzat 'Abd-al-Wahab. The company paid the downpayment on its security deposit in hard currencies which was deposited in the bank. The company will export the fish production of the lake because the public sector does not do so. This is the whole story.

[Question] There are certain aspects that still need clarification such as the complaints of the fishermen against the monopoly enjoyed by the company and the question of allowing fishing by the (shanshulah?).

[Answer] As for the problems between the company and the fishermen including the accounting system, they will be discussed in an urgent meeting of the higher committee for the lake. With regard to the use of the (shanskulah?) I am more keen than the fishermen in seeing to it that the fish resource from the lake is not drained. From the start, I made it a condition on the company not to use the scraper, the narrow-opening nets--less than 35 mm opening--or dynamite for fishing in the lake.

[Question] What about the (shanshulah)?

[Answer] I promised some of them to allow the use of the shanshulah. However, I banned the use of the scraper completely. In any case, I asked the Ministry of Agriculture to send a technical committee from its department of water resources to draw a new set of technical rules and regulations for fishing in the lake. Until now, the committee has not arrived.

[Question] Owing to the circumstances prevailing in the area, I hope to see the government expedite its cooperation with the people.

[Answer] I hope so too.

[Question] What about the problem of the identity cards? Your employees demand documents and certificates, regardless of the fact that the residents lived under the difficult circumstances of the occupation. They should be given all facilities, even if you have to eliminate half of the regular red tape. What do you think?

[Answer] They are afraid of the draft, although I did not bring a recruitment staff with me to al-'Arish. However, the issuance of identity cards is no longer a problem. I am making it easy and simple in every respect. For example, if a married man applies for identity cards without having any papers or documents to prove his marriage status, I simply ask him to bring two elders, as witnesses, to confirm that he is married. Can it be any simpler? Within 24 hours, an applicant can have his identity card. I believe that such a procedure puts an end to government red tape.

[Question] Employees of the government sleep in the schools while the classrooms should be prepared for the opening of the school year. There is no automated bakery in the city.

[Answer] We have a project to build prefabricated housing units. Here is a copy of a letter I sent to Minister Hasaballah al-Kafrawi asking him to expedite execution of the project, since the schools will be opened in September. This is a copy of another letter I sent to the minister of tourism concerning the city of al-'Arish.

[Question] They should respond more promptly. In matters concerning al-Arish, the other cabinet ministers should act and move at a quicker pace. You should be given whatever budget and funds you ask for, even at the expense of other governorates. You should begin development projects, greater in number and scope, than the ones you just cited.

[Answer] That is exactly what I and the people of al-'Arish strive for.

[Question] I hope that when I return to al-'Arish, I will no longer hear the people discuss the issue of working in Israel.

5800

CSO: 4802

PROJECTS IN GOVERNORATES REVIEWED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Jul 79 p 8

[Article: "Prime Minister Receives Report about the Achievements of the Governorates"]

[Text] Yesterday Prime Minister Mustafa Khalifi received a report prepared by Engineer Sulaym al-Mitawalli, minister of state for cabinet affairs and local governments. The report outlines the achievements of the various governorates of the Republic during the first quarter of the current year, in the light of President Sadat's decision to transfer full power to the governorates.

The report said that by the end of last March a total of 637 investment projects in the governorates had been approved with a capital of 1785 million Egyptian pounds. The revenue expected from the approved projects was estimated at 2941 million pounds. During the period from January 1 to the end of March, 46 development projects were approved with a total capital of 121 million pounds and an expected revenue of 52 million pounds. Projects that actually began production, up to December 31 of the past year, amounted to about 191 with total capital of 421 million pounds. These projects realized an actual output valued at 1,191 million pounds.

Citing in detail the achievements of every governorate the report says:

In the governorate of Cairo 260 housing units were delivered in the housing projects of Qal-it al-Kabash, al-Zawiyah al-Hamra' and al-Matariyah. Other projects included the installation of 380 lampposts and construction of the foundations of the new Zamalik bridge.

In the governorate of al-Daqahliyah, a health education center was inaugurated in the district of Aja to teach the masses health awareness. Two other health education centers at Mit Ghamr and Dakartis were provided with the necessary equipment. Other projects included the opening of a welfare center for the aged. The center provides the senior citizens with health and social care. Under another project, 224,997 Egyptian pounds were paid as subsidies and compensations to the families of the war veterans.

In the governorate of Damietta, 120 housing units were delivered in the cities of Damietta and al-Zarqa. Al-Labbary district in the city of Kafr Sa'd was provided with electricity. Health units were established in three villages. The electric networks at the entrances of the city of Damietta were upgraded. Electric equipment was installed in the towns of al-Zarqa and Fariskur, the city of Damietta and the villages of Shata and al-'Adliyah. In the field of food security, 124,291 chickens were fattened to produce 174 tons of meats.

In the governorate of al-Gharbiyah, two elementary schools, one high school, one junior high school and 34 classrooms were built in the various parts of the governorate. In addition, seven rural health units and a full-fledged medical center were established in al-Mahallah al-Kubra. A total of 1,220 housing units were delivered and 80 other housing units and 19 industrial housing buildings are being completed in al-Mahalla al-Kubra.

In the governorate of al-Buhayrah, a local fund was established to finance housing projects from local resources, the most important of which would be revenues from the sale of the state land which was acquired illegally, and the local residents' contribution of 25 percent of the value of the lands to be distributed. A survey was made of wasteland to be reclaimed. Its area was found to be 8,000 feddans in al-Dalanjat district.

In the governorate of Kafr al-Shaykh, 466 new classrooms, in the various stages of education, were opened. Thirteen villages were provided with electric power. A new building costing 52,000 pounds was delivered in the city of Kafr al-Shaykh.

In the governorate of al-Minufiyah, the eastern side of the governorate of al-Gharbiyah was linked with the city of Sars al-Layyan by the new concrete al-Hajajiyah bridge. The one million dollar road between al-Shuhada' and Mamuf was inaugurated. Two apartment houses were built in Bakham and al-Bajur.

In the governorate of al-Sharqiyah, three housing units were delivered in Bahya district. Twenty anti-illiteracy classrooms and 10 guidance and family consultation centers were established.

In the governorate of al-Ismailiyah it was decided to establish a plant for processing canned goods on a plot of land with an area of 20 feddans. The production capacity of the plant will be 12,000 tons annually. Capital outlays for the plant amount to 24 million dollars. Part of the plant's production will be set aside for exportation.

In the governorate of North Sinai, a 65 kilometer road linking al-Qantara East and al-Khirba was cleared of the sweeping sands and opened for traffic. Compensations and subsidies were paid to about 5,000 needy families and 15 nurseries were opened.

6800

CSO: 4802

IMPACT OF REVOLUTION FELT IN GERMANY

Cologne RHEINISCHER MERKUR in German 3 Aug 79 p 3

[Article by Claus Happel: "Is SAVAK Only a Pretext?"]

[Text] The hunt for alleged Shah agents among the Persians in Germany is said to be really aimed at Khomeyni's opposition. So say socialist students of the CISNU [Confederation of Iranian Students] who feel they are being persecuted.

"Our lives are in continuous danger. If we are unmasked, we are in danger of being carried off to Iran, and what awaits us there can easily be figured out." The man who said this is obviously afraid. He belongs to those Iranian students within the CISNU who have formed an anti-Khomeyni faction.

Within the Confederation and against the Ayatollah? In spite of the fact that during the era of the Pahlavi rule, the CISNU always marched in the forefront of the opposition whose symbol-figure was the aged Khomeyni?

"This is not a contradiction, for we, the students, wanted a new Iran: One in which all social and political groups were to be able to develop freely. We were and we are convinced that Iran's future will be socialist. But just because of this, we have always been of the firm opinion that people must be left free to make their own decisions. We believed in the victory of reason. This reason would make our suppressed people reach for socialist models. Even monarchists could, therefore, have run in elections. The people would have defeated them at the polls." While he presents these theses, a reflection of that fire returns to his eyes that drove CISNU students into the streets, against the shah and for the revolution.

But then, once again, fear shows in his eyes: "You know, today friend does not trust friend any more. We have become very lonely." They have become lonely because the revolution has taken a course different from what they expected. "The revolution has been betrayed. The followers of the Ayatollah permitted us to rise up against the shah, but from the very outset they wanted a country imprinted with an out-dated Islamic perception. There is no room for socialists, communists or liberals.

Are they then persecuted? This is obviously a foolish question, as far as that man is concerned. "What do you think is going on in the FRG at this very moment? Those Iranians reported on on TV and by the press are certainly no SAVAK stool pigeons. The great majority are our friends, opponents of the current regime. It is too bad how German journalists have accepted the regime's propaganda formula."

The system is apparently of such diabolic simplicity as if it had been invented by Reinhard Heydrich, the Saint Justin figure of the Reich's head security office. "Because the Khomeyni supporters are aware that those who are under suspicion of having cooperated with the SAVAK are known to Iranian students, there are always a few such suspects among the victims settled on by the "Islamic commandos." But the great majority of those who have been imprisoned, beaten and robbed of their passports are our people, those of the opposition. Thereby a double effect is achieved: First, the "commandos" can count on the support of Iranian students because the latter hate everything connected with SAVAK. Moreover, with the slogan "revenge against yesterday's torturers," the whole action is given an understandable, and even a moral meaning, thereby driving us away from solidarity with German and Iranian fellow-students. Whoever in Germany henceforth takes an open position against the Ayatollah regime, runs the risk of being defamed as a supporter of the shah.

This was a discussion that makes one think. Here it becomes obvious how strongly Iran's internal conflicts affect the FRG. CISNU students assert that the persecution of their countrymen is a kind of "hygiene;" the "elements of the deposed regime" must be uncovered and submitted to "just punishment." And students of the very same opposition present themselves as politically persecuted victims of the new Iran, because they have recognized in the figure of the Ayatollah the man who has betrayed "their great" revolution. If one looks at those opponents, one finds there those who indeed had always been in the front against the shah. Then, they were threatened by SAVAK, and they came also into the magnetic fields of German Federal security forces. Because then--during the time of the Shah--CISNU forces were often found where there were riots in Germany. This was, for instance, the case in Frankfurt, where they teamed up with communist groups and "spontaneous ones" of all kinds. But there were also contacts with those student groups who have ties to the parliamentary parties.

Today those who do not want to see the end of the shah's regime connected with the beginning of the Ayatollah's power are apparently in total isolation. If Khomeyni's side were not religiously motivated, one could feel reminded of the party struggle during the French revolution. The CISNU side, no unified block but originating from many political camps wanted the revolution. The revolution won, but it wasn't theirs and now it threatens to devour them all. Who would not wish for Iran a development into a safe future? But at present it looks as if the land were ruled by men who already have their future behind them. At the moment, there is no room for the young dreamers: "We are being persecuted because, trained in the West, we

do not see our country's salvation in a backward-oriented interpretation of the Koran. When the prophet brought the Koran, it was revolutionary and progressive. These maxims still hold. But they have to be modified. It is blind arrogance if one wants to get a grip on tomorrow's problems by using the answers of yesteryear.

The young man from the CISNU has kept his faith in the future. But at present he sees few opportunities. "We must organize anew. We must work underground. Yet, we shall win."

It may come true, if they are not first unmasked--in spite of underground meeting places. It was a strange meeting in the middle of the FRG.

9011

CSO: 4403

U.S. EFFORT TO GET PLO TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL VIEWED SUSPICIOUSLY

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 1 Aug 79 p 1

[Editorial by 'Izz-al-Din al-Tantawi: "Why Does Washington Insist on Organization's Recognition of Resolution 242?"]

[Text] One of the amazing political tricks played by the major powers on the international stage is this surprising position which the United States adopts and declares toward the Palestinian issue generally and toward the PLO in particular.

In recent months, we have heard repeated official statements made by U.S. spokesmen asserting Washington's readiness to begin a dialogue with the PLO if the organization acknowledges U.N. Security Council resolution 242 of 1967.

It has been even said, both as a challenge and an enticement, that U.S. President Jimmy Carter has announced that he is ready to meet with the PLO at 1100 if the organization recognizes resolution 242 at 0800.

It is our right to ask: What is the meaning of this U.S. position, what is its goal and what are its true dimensions?

It may be said that Washington wants to wrench recognition of Israel from the Palestinian resistance through the PLO's acceptance of paragraph B of article one of the resolution--a paragraph which stipulates "termination of all postures and conditions of war, observation and recognition of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state in the area, as well as its political independence and its right to live peacefully within and recognized borders free of the threat and the use of force."

But the United States, which wants to entangle the Palestinian resistance in abidance by resolution 242, is well aware that Israel is not in need of the PLO's recognition and that Israel is the one that refuses to acknowledge the presence of the Palestinian people themselves and refuses to deal with the organization except through fighting it and, consequently, annihilating the Palestinians, both those who have stayed in the occupied homeland and those who have emigrated to the neighboring countries.

So the issue does not mean mutual recognition by the resistance and Israel. The aim is to make the resistance succumb and to end it so as to complete the Camp David deal that has devoured the Arab-Israeli conflict of Egypt's capabilities and its military efforts.

Else, how could Washington--which holds, according to its friend al-Sadat, 99 percent of the cards of the game--forget to implement resolution 242, how could it leave this resolution a lifeless corpse since it was born on 22 November 1967 and how could it totally disregard this resolution to achieve separate peace between Egypt and Israel and then remember the embalmed resolution and call for no more than forcing the Palestinian resistance to recognize it?

If we ask what will happen after the PLO recognizes resolution 242, the answer might be that Washington will enter into dialogue with the Palestinian resistance. Isn't this enough?

As for the outcome of this dialogue, it is known in advance by inference from the dialogue between al-Sadat and Washington which ended with the Camp David defeat and with the separate peace capitulation, keeping in mind the difference between the slide of al-Sadat, who represents a political entity which will survive and will one day obviate al-Sadat's falls and deviations, and the ensnaring of the Palestinian resistance while it is leading a revolution whose components are the goals and the principles. If the resistance relinquishes any of these goals or principles then this would mean its end and the loss of the people who attach all their hopes to it.

The U.S. insistence on wrenching the PLO's recognition of resolution 242 is not aimed at just peace in the area and at enabling the Palestinians to obtain their legitimate rights to regain their land and to build their state. This insistence represents a part of the plan drawn by Washington and Tel Aviv to bring the Arab nation to its knees and to force it to capitulate in a feverish atmosphere abounding with maneuvers, tricks and threats so as to realize the goals that the Camp David plot has not been able to realize so far.

The Palestinian resistance, which embodies the Arab people's will and determination to defy the aggression and to stand fast in the face of the imperialist plots, is fully aware that its recognition of resolution 242 -- in case it recognizes it -- will take it nowhere other than to entanglement in the downhill road of concessions.

Even when certain Arab countries accepted the embalmed resolution in the atmosphere of inability and defeat created by the 1967 aggression, the organization had its clear and frank position despite the fact that it had not yet assumed its present status and prominent form and the fact that it did not have its present national weight and political influence.

How farsighted and objective the organization was when it described the resolution upon its issuance as "vague, weak and leaves open many gaps which

Israel can exploit to perpetuate its occupation of the Arab territories!" Throughout the past 12 years, the soundness of this evaluation of the resolution--which contradicts the organization's strategy and conflicts in form and content with the charter to which it committed itself before the Palestinian people and before all the Arab nation's peoples--has been made clear.

The Palestinian resistance is at liberty to exercise its right to hold dialogue and to adopt any tactical political positions in any sphere and at any level.

However, it should be clear in advance that these positions cannot be taken at the expense of the Palestinian principles and goals or at the expense of the strategic interests of the Arab/Palestinian people.

Even though it is true that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, it is also true that the organization is the true embodiment of the aspirations and hopes of the entire Arab nation.

Regardless of how sparkling is the U.S. temptation for opening a dialogue with the Palestinian resistance, this temptation is nothing but an attempt to penetrate the capitulation-rejecting wall built by the Arab nation at the Baghdad summit in the face of the Camp David plot.

Yasir 'Arafat has warned of the dangerous U.S. attempts that may have succeeded in partially penetrating the wall of Arab steadfastness through one of the Arab regimes.

It is our right to warn and to be apprehensive of the outcome of the feverish U.S. endeavors to drag the Arab regimes one after the other to the Camp David abyss.

There is no doubt that the Palestinian resistance which is alert to its responsibilities, which is aware of the dimensions of the greater plot against this nation's existence and which understands the nature of the U.S. tricks on the Arab arena is worthy of undertaking the pioneer role in exposing what Washington seeks through its insistence on forcing the PLO to recognize resolution 242 and, consequently, to bring both the resistance and the Arab nation to their knees and to achieve for imperialism and Zionism what has not yet been achieved under the canopy of the Camp David capitulation and of al-Sadat-Begin separate peace treaty.

We can see nobody worthier than the Palestinian resistance of foiling this ferocious U.S. onslaught which is aimed not only at the Palestinian resistance but also at the Arab nation and the national existence in its entirety at the same time.

As for the dialogue which Washington dangles as a price for ousting the PLO from the arena of struggle and for taming it through its acceptance of resolution 242, this dialogue deserves no time to be wasted on it as long as its aim is to cause the national principles and goals and the fateful issue to be lost.

KUWAITI MOVEMENT TO AVERT ARAB-IRANIAN CONFLICTS VIEWED AS WELL-TIMED

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 28 Jul 79 p 1

[Editorial by Fu'ad Matar: "Movement at Right Time"]

[Text] The movement of the Kuwaiti diplomacy has come at the right time. Rather, it has come before the Iranian-Arab fires, if we may use the expression, erupt.

Until the moment we heard that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad moved in the direction of Iraq and Iran, we were wondering: What is the Kuwaiti diplomacy awaiting? But now that the movement has taken place, we are, despite the reassurance that we feel, still wondering: Will the Kuwaiti diplomacy be content with the step that it has taken or will it continue and persist without despair until the danger of the outbreak of the fires that we have mentioned disappears?

When we express full reassurance in regard to what may have been accomplished by Shaykh Sabah in Iraq and Iran, we rely on successful missions which he had previously carried out and on the approach he took in dealing with the issue of the Gulf's recognition of the Iranian revolution.

We lived with Shaykh Sabah some moments in which he translated his approach into contacts and we became familiar with some facts and information which prove that the approach was alert and aware of the new changes.

The movement of the Kuwaiti diplomacy has come at an extremely critical time when the talk of U.S. intervention in the Gulf area is being renewed as if this intervention has begun the countdown phase. Confronting this intervention comes primarily through the alliance of the people in the same line, even though the approaches may differ, because it is unreasonable for the possibilities of the eruption of Arab-Iranian fires to escalate at a time when the possibilities of a U.S. military intervention in the area are increasing.

The new statements made 3 days ago by Harold Brown, the U.S. secretary of defense, seem to indicate that the possibilities of beginning the countdown for a U.S. military intervention in the Gulf area are more likely now than ever before.

The minister stated that his country "is now willing to use military force to defend its vital interests that are now more limited as a result of the Vietnam war. He had the Gulf specifically, among other areas, in mind. The United States considers that area vital to its interests." [Quotation marks as published].

As to why the possibilities of intervention are likely, it is because the statement included the word "now" which was not included in other statements that Brown and others had made.

Therefore, the changes witnessed by the U.S. administration in the past 2 weeks may be for the purpose of getting matters in order at home so as to devote the attention to foreign issues, foremost of which--according to the statements and comments we have been hearing--is military intervention in the Gulf area.

This is also why the movement of the Kuwaiti diplomacy has come at the right time. When this diplomacy seeks to avert the eruption of Iranian-Arab fires, it does so in order that the armed U.S. intervention may be confronted by a strong will and by alliances capable of turning this intervention into a setback for the illusion of the U.S. administration which believes that preserving its interests lies in resorting to a new colonialist method and not on understanding the facts that have become axiomatic.

8494
CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

IRAQ CONGRATULATED ON SMOOTH POWER TRANSFER

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Jul 79 p 1

[Editorial: "Sadam Husayn Completes the Circle of Young Leaders in the Region"]

[Text] The most prominent thing about the event in Iraq is that the transition took place within the framework of the institutions, and from within them. The predecessors came with their full consent to announce the changover. The transfer of full authority proceeded with merely the announcement of the change. The governing group, headed by the new president, Sadam Husayn, appeared to be totally prepared, and the former president, Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, departed in strength, revered and honored.

We are at once struck by two points: First, the Iraqi revolution has implemented its transition stage and has firmly established the principles of rule on the basis of their laws and regulations. The nation is no longer subject to revolutionary adventurism which comes from behind the doors of the various centers of power. The revolution does not have to end up with a counter revolution or be split into two revolutions.

The second striking point is that the preparations for the new Iraqi changeover lasted a long time and included a large number of people on the higher leadership committees. Despite that, it was carried out within a framework of complete secrecy. No indications of it leaked to the outside either in the Arab world or in international circles. This is an indication of the cohesiveness of the government and its capacity for effective leadership.

The accession of Sadam Husayn to the nation's presidency had long been anticipated, and the whole thing was simply a matter of time. In truth, Sadam Husayn's assumption of the responsibilities of leadership seems more in tune with the situation in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula where changes have already occurred bringing younger leaders into power who are, nevertheless, professionals at it.

The departure of Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr seems to complete, chronologically, the departure of King Faysal ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz and the late Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, just as the advent of Saddam Husayn seems to complete the advent of King Khalid in Saudi Arabia and His Majesty Prince Jabir al-Ahmad in Kuwait.

Congratulations to Iraq. We wish our sister country and neighbor every success under its new leadership, increased bilateral and regional cooperation in the Gulf region, and more extensive cooperation within the framework of Arab nationalism.

9123

CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

MAJOR REVIEW OF ARABS' OIL POLICY URGED

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 15 Jul 79 p 9

[Editorial by Michel Abu Jawdah: "From Stalin to Carter"]

[Text] While Menahem Begin proclaims that Egypt and Israel have progressed from the stage of peace to the stage of friendship, and that Egypt has agreed to sell Israel surplus oil from the Sinai fields, American public opinion along with the rest of the world awaits decisions by President Carter following the historic period of seclusion he imposed on himself at Camp David during which he sought the advice of more than 100 persons concerning U.S. internal affairs, which first and foremost concern oil.

Thus, oil is a basic element in Egyptian-Israeli relations and a basic element in American policy.

Nevertheless, for the three parties to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty this oil seems to be very important, and at the same time may become a non-influence on political events.

When German forces attacked the Soviet Union at the outset of World War II, breaking the Stalin-Hitler Pact, the Soviet leader was taken by surprise. He had rejected all the warnings of his diplomatic corps and intelligence agency. He found himself forced to seclude himself for 17 days to make an appropriate decision.

Following this seclusion Stalin emerged and called the Russian nation, the Soviet peoples and the Orthodox Church to war.

When the American President emerges from his seclusion whom does everyone expect him to call to war?

The American people, of course.

However, based on all precedents, calling people to economic war is definitely one of the most difficult tasks faced by rulers and governments.

American public opinion will be summoned to a kind of asceticism which requires much convincing. Raising doubts in economic areas is a greater threat to the popularity of rulers than creating doubts in the political sphere because it is easy to lead people to war in defense of the homeland, but difficult to urge them to legislate in defense of the budget. How [can this be done] if this people does not believe that whatever it is being told on the subject of oil and the economy is the truth and nothing but the truth?

It is true that the oil operation between Egypt and Israel is first and last a political operation. It is also true that any oil and economic arrangements proposed by President Carter will be first and last a political operation. If the three parties--America, Egypt and Israel--are able to exclude a link between oil here and there, the fundamental issue--the Middle East crisis--might remain as it is, dangling between the policy of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the policy of the countries of the Baghdad summit.

In this event it is impossible to imagine any way out of this situation other than by a reexamination of their oil policies by the oil producing Arab countries following President Carter's expected decisions.

In other words, the solution of Israel's oil problem--if Egypt should partially take the place of Iran--and the solution of America's oil problem under arrangements which ignore the Middle East crisis will leave the oil producing Arabs with no other choice but to politicize their oil. In the latest phase of the Middle East crisis oil has emerged as the one remaining Arab weapon for applying pressure towards a solution to this crisis.

How can the oil-producing Arabs actually politicize this weapon which could paralyze Israel and America?

Are they imitating Stalin and Carter by holding an "oil retreat" from which they will emerge with decisions concerning the paralyzing power of the oil weapon?

9123
CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

DISTRIBUTION OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DETAILED

Kuwait AL-QANAS in Arabic 23 Jul 79 p 13

[Article: "Increase in Consumption of Refined Products From 17,000 to 37,000 Barrels per Day"]

[Text] Local consumption of refined petroleum products has increased appreciably, from 17,000 barrels per day in 1975 to approximately 37,000 barrels per day in 1978.

A Central Bank report attributes this increase to the high consumption of gasoline as a result of the increased number of cars in the country and the high consumption of fuel oil used in the state utilities and the industrial sector and in supplying ships, cars and machinery in general.

In 1978 Kuwait's production of refined products remained at the level it reached in 1977, when it amounted to approximately 130.4 million barrels.

Kuwait allocates most of its refined petroleum products for export purposes, while it uses only about 10 percent for domestic consumption.

The percentage of exports of refined products to total petroleum exports rose about 13 percent in 1973 to about 18 percent in 1976, then to approximately 20 percent in 1977 and 1978. Exports of refined products, which had risen appreciably--by 37 percent--in 1976 due to the increased world-wide demand for them and the increase in Kuwait's refining capacity, fell off by 1 percent in 1977.

This decrease was the result of the closing of the al-Shu'aybah refinery for a full month in 1977 for the purpose of making some improvements, and to marketing difficulties in that year as a result of the sluggishness or slowing down of the recovery of the economies of the importing countries. This sluggishness led to a decrease in refinery operations in many parts of the world to approximately 65 percent of the available refinery capacity, in addition to a decrease or freezing of the prices of the principal petroleum products. These marketing difficulties continued through the

first three quarters of 1978 during which exports of refined products decreased by approximately 30 percent. However, those exports rose appreciably--by 31.5 percent--in the last quarter of 1978 in the wake of the drop in the availability of refined products in the world oil market as a result of the absence of Iranian exports. This led to a rise in Kuwait's exports of refined products for the entire year by approximately 7.1 percent.

With regard to the markets for Kuwait's exports of refined products, the nations of south Asia and the Far East remained the focus of exports in 1978 despite a decline in their share to approximately 44 percent from 50 percent in the previous year.

This decrease can be attributed to a relative abundance of petroleum products in the markets of those countries. On the other hand, the shares of each of the Arab countries rose from 1977 levels (21.3 percent as opposed to 15.8 percent), as did those of the Western European countries (16.8 percent as opposed to 13.5 percent). The latter were compelled to increase their imports of refined products from numerous sources (such as Kuwait) in the wake of the Soviet Union's cutback in its exports of these products.

9123

CSO: 4802

MORE OIL EXPORTED IN 1978 THAN IN 1977

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 30 Jul 79 p 10

[Article: "Financial Statement on General Draft Budget; Rate of Kuwaiti Crude Oil Exports Rose by Nine Percent in 1978; Japan Is First in Oil and Gas Imports and Is Followed by Europe"]

[Text] 'Abd-al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, the minister of finance, has stated that Kuwait's crude oil exports amounted last year to 1,761,000 barrels daily, i.e. with an increase of nine percent over 1977.

In a financial statement on the general draft budget, al-'Atiqi added that south Asia and Far East areas top the list of the areas importing Kuwaiti crude oil. He also said that the total imports of these two areas amounted last year to 49 percent of the total exports, compared to 48 percent in the preceding year.

The minister pointed out that Japan tops the list of countries importing Kuwaiti crude and that the volume of its imports amounted last year to 27.5 percent of Kuwait's oil exports, i.e. with an increase of 10 percent over 1977.

Al-'Atiqi added that Western Europe comes second to the Far East area in terms of imports of Kuwaiti oil and that the West European imports of Kuwaiti oil amounted last year to 41 percent of their total imports, compared to 36.5 percent in 1977.

The statement also demonstrated that Britain topped the list of West European countries importing Kuwaiti oil and that its imports last year amounted to 11 percent of the total Kuwaiti exports, i.e. with an increase of five percent over 1977.

North and South America recorded a drop in their imports [of Kuwaiti oil] last year and those imports amounted to 85 percent and 39.8 percent successively, [compared to 1977].

Al-'Atiqi also said that the imports of Eastern Europe and the Uqiyanusya area [Australia and New Zealand] dropped by 12 percent last year whereas the Middle East showed a drop of four percent which is the smallest drop in the percentages of Kuwaiti imports in comparison to the other markets.

Insofar as Kuwait's total exports of refined products are concerned, al-'Atiqi said that they amounted last year to 121.3 million barrels compared to 120.3 million barrels in 1977.

Kuwaiti production of liquefied gas dropped by 7.4 percent last year when it amounted to 1,187,000 metric tons compared to 1,282,000 metric tons in 1977.

Gas exports also dropped last year by 8.9 percent, amounting to 1,139,000 metric tons compared to 1.25 million metric tons in 1977.

Al-'Atiqi added that the Far East area is considered the major market for the Kuwaiti liquefied gas exports and that this area's share of these exports amounted last year to 88 percent compared to 86 percent in 1977.

Japan is the biggest importer of liquefied gas. A volume of 994,000 metric tons representing 87 percent of Kuwait's total liquefied gas exports last year were supplied to Japan.

Japan is followed by Western Europe which occupies second place as a market for the Kuwaiti liquefied gas exports. In 1977, Western Europe ranked second in Kuwaiti liquefied gas exports. Western European imports of this gas rose by 14 percent last year and amounted to 62,000 metric tons compared to 54,000 tons in 1977.

Al-'Atiqi pointed out that the Middle East's imports of Kuwaiti liquefied gas leaped from 3,000 tons in 1977 to 52,000 tons last year, thus making the Middle East the third largest market for Kuwaiti exports of this gas.

He said that North America's and Africa's imports dropped by large rates, amounting to 82 percent for America and 46 percent for Africa.

He added that local sales of liquefied gas recorded a 13.4 percent increase last year over the 1977 sales which amounted to 37,996 metric tons.

5494

CSO: 4803

KUWAIT

CENTRAL BANK ASSETS DECLINE

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Jul 79 p 11

[Article: "Central Bank Assets Decrease for the First Time; an Increase in Discounted or Rediscounted Commercial Notes by 50 Percent"]

[Text] Assets of the Central Bank decreased from 844 million dinars at the end of 1977 to 738 million at the end of 1978.

This is the first time that the bank's assets have decreased in the figures released on an annual basis.

According to a recently issued Central Bank report this decrease results entirely from a decrease in the amount of foreign assets--which comprise over 95 percent of the total assets--from the equivalent of 817 million dinars in 1977 to 701 million in 1978.

It is clear that this decrease occurred entirely during the second half of the aforementioned year, especially in the last 2 months of the year, while the bank's holdings of foreign assets increased by 84 million dinars during the first half. They then decreased again in the second half by more than twice this sum--201 million dinars.

This can be explained by three main factors:

1. A decrease in the reserve account with the International Monetary Fund, especially after a portion of the oil facilitations granted to the aforementioned fund by the State of Kuwait in accordance with special arrangements agreed upon by the fund, the Ministry of Finance and the Bank, and implementation of which began in 1974.

During 1978 the supply of these facilitations decreased by 42 million dinars, from 225 million dinars at the end of 1977 to 183 million at the end of 1978.

2. A decline in the amount of foreign currency obtained by the bank from the government (represented by the Ministry of Finance) in return for

supplying it with the Kuwaiti dinars which are necessary for financing its local operations, and especially after the government stopped purchasing local shares in April 1978, as well as after it adopted a policy of regulating and guiding public expenditures starting with the current fiscal year which began on 1 July 1978.

3. A decline--particularly in the second half of 1978--in the amount of funds and deposits held by the commercial banks in the Central Bank most of which the latter reinvests in the form of deposits in banks abroad.

The Local Assets

The Central Bank's local assets, most of which consists of discounted or rediscounted commercial notes held in the bank by the local banks, continued to increase from 26.9 million dinars in 1977 to 37.4 million in 1978. However, their relative importance in the total assets has remained insignificant--5 percent. It is clear that the discounted or rediscounted commercial notes increased by approximately one-half during 1978, particularly in the last 2 months of that year, as a consequence of the sudden decline in the commercial banks' liquidity in dinars.

Liabilities

With regard to liabilities, money disbursed by the bank continued to increase in 1978, but at a slightly lower rate than that in the previous year (17 percent as compared to 18 percent).

As has already been mentioned, the currency which consists of banknotes and coins plays a less important role in Kuwait than in other developing countries because of the spread of banking practices, as is apparent in the high number of current accounts with the commercial banks (demand deposits) and consequently the relatively more widespread use of checks, especially among businessmen.

9123

CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

KUWAIT'S APPROACH TO EUROPEAN GROUP SAID SOUND STEP FORWARD

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 4 Aug 79 p 3

[Editorial by Fahad al-'Ali: "Positive Use of the Oil Weapon"]

[Text] The oil weapon has two different faces: It can be employed by embargoing its production and export, and it can also be used by ensuring that certain countries are supplied with it. In both instances, its influence as an international pressure factor can be exploited to the advantage of the Arab cause on the one hand, and to meet Arab political, economic and technological needs and interests on the other.

The recent Kuwaiti initiative used the positive aspect of the oil weapon on the basis of giving it, not withholding it, a clever approach that avoids the dangers of an oil embargo and wards off the negative affects from the other countries of the world. At the same time, the oil weapon is put to use at a crucial and proper time when the needs of the European countries for oil are increasing because of the energy crisis on the one hand, and, on the other, when the Palestine issue is reaching a dangerous turning point following the signing of the unilateral peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

Add to this the fact that the Kuwaiti initiative was directed at Europe as an international force with an international influence and role, the United States, having plunged up to its ears into the Camp David plans, the threads of which it had woven with its own hands and then immersed itself in them until it reached a roadblock, whereupon it became difficult for it to extricate itself from them or to get moving apart from them, as these plans were now like a spiderweb, fragile but interwoven, and sticky threads in which anyone entering them would get entangled.

The Kuwaiti initiative is aimed at moving Europe into the Arab camp as a friend and ally, and is offering it the most costly and important of today's needs, that is, oil.

It is also aimed at finding a calm remedy for the energy crisis by accomplishing the common interests of both the producing and consuming countries through the dialogue and cooperation approach far removed from the noise of threats.

he initiative will also ensure for the Arabs sources of modern technology in return for providing Europe with oil energy sources, a fair trade that will meet the best interests of both sides.

At the same time, the Kuwaiti-Gulf move toward Europe is directed first of all at France. This was not accidental, but was a studied and logical action. Of the European countries, France has the best understanding of the facts of the Palestinian issue and, moreover, has a tangible influence in the European group as a whole, plus the fact that it was holding the rotating chairmanship of the EEC in May when the ruler of the country sent his message to President d'Estaing, raising the idea of the Kuwaiti initiative.

From every angle, the present Kuwaiti-French initiative is a wise and positive step toward breaking the paralysis that has surrounded the Palestinian since Camp David, and has exposed it to the dangers of plans for its liquidation and toward finding a sound remedy for the energy issue through the Gulf-European dialogue.

8389

CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

OIL EXPORTS UP IN 1978 WHILE GAS EXPORTS DROPPED SLIGHTLY

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 30 Jul 79 p 13

[Article: "Oil Exports Increased 9 Percent and Gas Exports Declined 8.9 Percent During 1978"]

[Text] Kuwaiti Minister of Finance 'Abd-al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi stated that during 1978, Kuwait exported an average of 1.761 million barrels a day, that is, an increase of 9 percent over 1977.

Al-'Atiqi added in a financial statement for the draft public budget that South Asia and the Far East were the number one importing areas of Kuwaiti crude. He said that last year these areas imported a total of 49 percent of total exports compared with 48 percent the previous year.

He indicated that Japan is the number one importer of Kuwaiti oil, as its imports last year totaled 27.5 percent of all Kuwaiti oil exports, an increase of 10 percent over the year before.

The minister said that Western Europe is in second place after the Far East in imports of Kuwaiti crude oil, as the imports of the countries of Western Europe from Kuwait last year amounted to 41 percent of their total oil imports as compared with 36.5 percent the previous year.

The statement showed that Britain occupied first place among the countries of Western Europe in imports of Kuwaiti oil, as its imports last year amounted to 11 percent of Kuwait's total oil exports, an increase of 5 percent over 1977.

North and South America registered a decrease in their imports of Kuwaiti oil during last year, having dropped to 58 percent and 39.8 percent respectively.

Minister al-'Atiqi stated that imports by Eastern Europe and the (Soviet Union) area declined by 12 percent last year, while the Middle East area registered a drop of 4 percent, a smaller drop in its imports of Kuwaiti oil compared with other year's.

With regard to Kuwait's total exports of refined products, al-'Atiqi said they totaled 121.3 million barrels last year as compared with 120.2 million barrels in 1977.

Kuwaiti production of liquified gas declined by 7.4 percent last year, as it amounted to 1.187 million metric tons as compared with 1.282 million metric tons in 1977.

Gas exports also declined by 8.9 percent last year, totaling 1.139 million metric tons compared with 1.250 million metric tons in 1977.

Al-'Atiqi stated that the Far East is the major market for Kuwait's exports of liquified gas, as its share last year amounted to 88 percent compared with 86 percent in 1977.

Japan is the biggest importer of Kuwaiti liquified gas, as it received a total of 994,000 metric tons representing 87 percent of Kuwait's total exports of liquified gas last year.

Western Europe took second place after Japan as a market for Kuwait's exports of liquified gas last year, although it occupied third place in 1977. Western Europe's imports of Kuwaiti liquified gas rose by 14 percent last year, totaling 62,000 metric tons compared with 54,000 metric tons in 1977.

Al-'Atiqi indicated that imports by the Middle East area of Kuwaiti liquified gas jumped from 3,000 tons in 1977 to 52,000 tons last year, thereby assuming third place as a market for Kuwait's gas exports.

He stated that the imports of North America and Africa showed a big drop, 82 percent for America and 46 percent for Africa.

He added that local sales of liquified gas registered an increase last year of 13.4 percent over the 1977 sales level, which amounted to 37,996 metric tons.

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DIFFICULTY IN RECONCILING OIL PRODUCER, CONSUMER NEEDS DISCUSSED

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 9 Aug 79 p 13

[Editorial by Sa'id 'Ilm-al-Din: "Minds and Oil"]

[Text] Minds in the industrial countries which have been worn down by the inflation game have begun to think seriously about the need to come up with a formula with the oil producers that would save the world from the terrifying whirlpool of inflation. Devotees of interlocking words can now divert themselves with searching for a formula that will protect the interests of both the producers and consumers of oil, noting that it will be extremely difficult and will require a certain amount of imagination.

Above all else, what do the industrial countries want, and what do the producing countries want?

The industrial countries want to insure supplies of oil sufficient for at least a quarter of a century at prices that will not lead to bankruptcy and will not force them to turn to the game of inflation.

The oil producing countries want to sell their oil at prices close to the true value of oil and unaffected by inflation. To be precise, they want a fair price for their oil as measured in currency or monetary units that are approximately or almost fixed, and unaffected by inflation.

There is a vast distance between the two positions, and it is hard to draw up a formula to reconcile them. The Western economy is based on cheap energy, while the economy of the oil producing countries is based on revenues that will not quickly lose their purchasing power. So that the Western countries can get their low cost energy, they play the inflation game and inflation decreases the value of the revenues.

So, the basic question is the fair price for oil. Oil is equivalent to 30,000 different materials, it is the force that moves the means of transport, the wheels of industry, machines and home appliances, and is the energy that turns darkness into light. Nonetheless, it is cheaper than coal, although coal can play only one or two roles.

BRIEFS

STATEMENT BY SHI'ITE MUFTI--"Save Shiyah from the mini-states." The Shi'ite Mufti, Shaykh 'Abd-Al-Amir Qabalan, yesterday--after a one-month interval--made a second anxious appeal to the administrators of the country. He urged them to proceed "without further delay to dismantle the "mini-states which, profiting from the anarchy, abound in the Shiyah region." Shaykh Qabalan also stressed "the need of deploying the army to the southern border area," adding that, "if not that, the regular Lebanese forces should settle in the southern outskirts of the capital in order to ensure security and to restrain all kinds of armed elements that terrorize the civilian population." In addition, in connection with various current matters, the Shi'ite religious official developed the following points: "present day problems cannot be resolved through the distribution of food or financial aid, or the organization of oratorical sessions; President Selim Hoss and his new cabinet should set up a program schedule to settle the matter of displaced persons; the return to legality is the most cherished desire of the Lebanese; if the government wants to prove its effectiveness, it must restore solidarity among the inhabitants of Damur and Na'amah, of Nab'ah and Judaydah, and of Shiyah and 'Ayn Al-Rummanah.

AMAL DENIAL OF PLOT AGAINST KHOMEYNI, BAZARGAN--In a communique issued yesterday, the Amal [Shi'ite Organization] denied the news that reported that commandos of the movement had been arrested in Iran and charged with an attempt to assassinate Ayatollah Khomeyni and Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan. The communique stressed that "relations of the Amal Organization with the Iranian revolution will not be affected by that false news. [Text] [Beirut L'ORIENT-LE JOUR in French 13 Aug 79 p 3] 8255

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OPPOSITION EXPLORES LIBYAN RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR

London SAWT LIBYA in Arabic May 79 pp 8-10

[Article by al-Bahi ibn Yaddar: "Where Are You Going, Libya?"]

[Text] Did America have a need to carry out a military revolution in Libya?

Were not its interests well assured in the previous reign?

In its last years the previous reign was a shaken, weak and soft one as was proven by the revolutionary movement which arose from its ashes.

It was inevitable that such a reign, whose ancient constitution had been sapped by its own inner inconsistencies, should give birth to a vicious regime such as the present Qadhdhafi regime.

By way of example rather than enumeration, we mention the most important of those inconsistencies which hastened the end of the previous reign in the form of the following concise points:

--Tribal relations, one of the apparent mainstays of the previous regime, in constant disintegration by virtue of the new economic reality (oil and the more recent major changes which have occurred in the economic and social make-up of the country).

--Conflict among the executive organizations and constant pressure from the oil companies aimed at creating a strong central organization with which it would be easy to conduct business.

--The substantial quantitative and qualitative development of nationalist movement forces with their various currents and ambitions.

--The steady growth of the union movement, and especially the student movement, due to their constant activity and multitude of initiatives.

This represents one side. On the other side we have:

--The visible and veiled conflict among foreign interests which were earnestly striving--each in its own interest, of course--to win the last round in the events of our country.

The "international" struggle is not, as some believe, between Moscow and Washington alone. It is between Washington and London, Paris and Bonn among others, and between Moscow and Peking, Belgrade, Bucharest and Prague, among others.

As concerns our country in particular, the struggle and competition among American and British interests and influence reached a peak shortly before the revolution of 1969. To summarize the matter, the despicable conditions which the previous reign had reached were the logical and actual birth process which produced the reign of Qadhafi. It was these conditions which facilitated America's mission and encouraged it to expedite the staging of its revolution. And so events happened as they did. Thus America gracefully sacrificed its base in order to end, without delay, the presence of Britain's "nothing" base. It consolidated its oil interests through participation contracts and blasted the British interests represented in the British Petroleum Company. Then it gave this vital substance to the new regime to use for whatever trickery it wanted (it achieved evacuation and nationalized the oil)--a play for which our people are still paying the exorbitant price to this day. In this connection, everyone has the right to wonder why not one dossier touching on the subject of the oil sector has been presented before what is termed the tribunal of the people. Is it because the oil sector in the previous reign was remote from all suspicions, or is it because this sector is the sector around which all sides revolve in the game for which our country has been sacrificed?

Furthermore, after America had succeeded in establishing its regime in Libya by means of which the interests and influence of Britain (the ally and the adversary) were torpedoed, it naturally endeavored to strengthen its new regime and give it capital and popularity to guarantee that the gains and successes it had achieved would be safeguarded. The power and prestige which it gives the regime are of a sort which reinforces and strengthens American influence and interests in our country. Consequently, the days of the splendid slogans must be short, and serious and stern measures must take their place. Thus the slogan, "He who forms a party betrays," takes the place of freedom. This slogan means nothing more than that the new American regime in Libya does not want there to be any opinion which differs from the opinion of the absolute ruler and does not want any voice raised to say that the road which has been imposed upon our country is a dead-end road leading only to hell and destruction. "He who forms a party betrays," is not a new watchword in the political dictionary. It was used and applied before by Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin and many others. The purpose behind this slogan is constant striving to keep Libya a political vacuum in which everyone who wants to control the fates of our country and our people can indulge themselves. The aim of this is to preclude Libyans from exercising their political rights and enjoying the blessings of their country under a democratic system which respects their humanity.

Political practice under a variety of parties means many things.

It means a constitution which limits the control of the ruler. It means a parliament which criticizes the government and makes it face its responsibilities. It means a budget which is precisely and rigorously prepared. It means guaranteeing the rights of man. It means the right to free speech and the right to work and strike. It means many, many things. This democratic climate might not be advantageous to the plan which has been drawn up for our country, and thus the regime has imposed the law of the big sticks, and has set out to eliminate the union movement and deprive it of its natural right to strike. Consequently, it has insured its oil partners that the oil will continue to flow. In fact, the existing regime later gave orders to increase oil production such that the reserves are now threatened with depletion in the near future.

(Of course, this occurred in spite of the reports and studies made by native experts and even the recommendations of some foreign experts.)

Some might wonder: Qadhafi has often taken public positions in which he attacked America and its interests in the region. Doesn't this suffice as proof of Qadhafi's hostile position towards America, and his strong alliance with the communist camp?

Qadhafi's attacks against America only fool the naive, and his apparent cooperation with Eastern bloc states, especially Russia, is only a deceitful cover and does not go beyond certain limits.

The temporary "alliance" is just an exercise within the reality of the policy of harmony between the two camps in our Arab region, particularly since the Soviet Union lost its positions in Egypt. The principles and ideologies are shelved when the language of hard currency and weapons deals is spoken. So that the Soviets could recover their debts from Egypt, they were allowed to exploit Libyan oil profits in the form of huge weapons deals, since the equivalent of a million barrels of Libyan crude oil, or more than one-third of its daily oil production, flows into the Soviet treasury every day.

Those who believe in classifying al-Qadhafi as a leftist or characterizing him as belonging to the Soviet camp commit an error in assessment based on all of the outward appearances which Qadhafi wishes to spread and implant in people's minds in order to divert them from the truth--the truth of his actual commission in the service of American interests in the region.

In this area, we would like to remind those who choose a "profitable" friendship with Qadhafi rather than friendship with the Libyan people--whether they belong to Communist Parties or leftist Palestinian organizations or are among the individuals and groups which are called leftists or progressives--of the following:

--Qadhafi was the first to attack the Soviet presence in Egypt.

--Qadhafi was the first to attack the Iraqi-Soviet pact.

--Qadhafi was the first who rushed to give effective help to Numeiri in slaughtering the communists in Sudan, and he is the one who seized their leaders' plane and forced it to land at Bahariya Airport.

--Qadhafi was one of the main subversive elements along with the Shah of Iran who worked for the destruction and elimination of the "revolution" in Iraq.

--It was Qadhafi who strove and is still striving to spread dissension, conflict and division in the ranks of the Palestinian resistance on the pretext that there are Marxist organizations in it of the likes of the PFLP and others.

--It was Qadhafi who, like Hitler, burned leftist books in the public squares, and it was he who prevented and continues to prevent the entry of such books and literature into Libya.

These are some examples of Qadhafi's "progressive" policy, and the list is very long.

Until we meet again, God willing, in coming issues.

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CONFIDENTIAL

BRIEFS

SOVIET ARMS--Egyptian sources have recently indicated that Syria had received a new batch of Soviet-made anti-armour missiles. The Cairo weekly magazine ROSE EL YUSUF which reported the delivery said a larger part of the arms were to go to the Palestinian Resistance but it said Syrian military authorities withheld the arms and gave only a small part of them, to the Palestinians. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 18 Aug 79 p 13]

BATTERIES, GAS AND SUGAR PLANTS--An official Syrian source revealed that all equipment needed for the batteries plant at Aleppo have been installed. The source added that the total cost of the plant reached close to SL 21 million and that its production capacity of 150,000 boxes annually. He said the plant will start experimental production as soon as raw materials are delivered. Meanwhile experimental production started at the Al Ruqqa Sugar Plant (in Eastern Syria). The Syrian Deputy Premier for Economic Affairs Mr Jamil Shayya stressed the need to step up operations in the construction of the Tchrine University in Latakia. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 18 Aug 79 p 13]

INDUSTRIAL BANK CHARGES LESSER INTEREST--The Industrial Bank of Aleppo reduced lately the interest charged on loans and credit facilities granted to industrialists by rates varying between 10 percent and 15 percent below the previous level. An official source said the new rates were effective as of July 1. He added that instructions on lending terms were also issued. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 18 Aug 79 pp 13-14]

REACTIVATION OF BANIAS REFINERY--The Syrian Oil and Mineral Wealth Minister Mr Issa Darwish recently received the Rumanian Minister of Industry. The meeting was attended by Mr Nader Nabulsi, the assistant to the Minister and the Rumanian ambassador in Damascus. The two ministers examined the need to step up operations towards the reactivation of the Banias Refinery. The refinery reactivation is being carried out by a Rumanian firm. The Banias Refinery is considered as the most modern on the Mediterranean and has a capacity of 6.5 million tonnes/year. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 18 Aug 79 p 14]

CZECHOSLOVAK NEWS AGENCY AGREEMENT--Prague, 27 Aug--An agreement was signed here yesterday between SANA and the CZECHOSLOVAK NEWS AGENCY for cooperation by exchanging photographs and experiments between the two countries. The agreement aims at bolstering and developing cooperation between the two friendly states in all fields, especially in reporting each country's important events and developments to the other. The agreement was signed on the Syrian side by Dr Sabir Falhut, SANA's director general, and on the Czechoslovak side by Dr (Vladimir Farlibar). [Text] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 27 Aug 79 JN]

ISRAELI-SYRIAN MEETING PROPOSED--Kuwait, 1 Sep--Quoting well-informed sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS today reports that Romania has proposed to Syria and Israel to arrange a secret meeting between them at the United States' request. The sources added that the Syrian reply to this proposal is not known yet. However, the sources added that recent consultations between Syrian President al-Asad and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky might result in something soon. The sources pointed out that the recent visit by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Romania was fruitful and its success helped to expedite the dispatch of a Romanian message to Israeli Prime Minister Begin on the Syrian-Palestinian concept of the future of Arab-Israeli relations in the event peace is achieved in the area. [Text] [Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 1 Sep 79 JN]

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WESTERN SAHARA

BRIEFS

MILITARY COMMUNIQUE CITED--The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry has issued a military communique stating that on 4 September Saharan revolutionary forces attacked and occupied the Moroccan garrison at [name indistinct] the Draa Valley for (?half) an hour and withdrew after inflicting heavy casualties on the garrison; 52 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 28 others wounded. A large quantity of arms was seized including 27 guns. [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Sep 79 LD]

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